TOLEDO BLADE

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TWO LOVERS.

GEORGE ELIOT.

Two lovers by a moss-grown spring—
They leaned soft cheeks together there,
Mixed the dark and sunny hair,
And heard the wooing thrushes sing.
O, budding time!
O, love's blest prime!

Two walked from the portal stept—
The bells made happy carolings,
The air was soft as fanning wings,
White petals on the pathway slept.
O, purer-eyed bride!
O, tender pride!

Two faces o'er a cradle bent—
Two hands above the head were locked;
Those pressed each other while they rocked;
Those watched a life that love had sent.
O, solemn hour!
O, hidden power!

Two parents by the evening fire—
The red light fell about their knees,
On heads that rose by slow degrees,
Like buds upon the lily spire.
O, patient life!
O, tender strife!

The two still sat together there,
The red light shone about their knees;
But all the heads, by slow degrees,
Had gone and left that lonely pair.
O, voyage fast!
O, vanished past!

The red light shone upon the floor,
And made the space between them wide,
They drew their chairs up side by side,
Their pale cheeks joined, and said "Once more!"
O, memories!
O, past that is!

—*Illustrated British Ballads.*

NASBY IN EXILE.

Interlaken, Brienz, Wood Carving, and Other Matters.

XXXVI.

LAKE THUN AND BEYOND.

From Bern to Thun the scenery is less bold and rugged, although the horizon is always filled with great peaks that are to be seen from every quarter.

At Thun we take steamer across Lake Thun, one of the most beautiful of all the Swiss lakes. It is not so large as Lake Geneva, and is not fringed with such enormous mountain chains, but it abounds with unexpected views of rare beauty, resembling very much our own picturesque Lake George.

As the steamer skirts the north bank of the lake, which is a succession of vineyards, we suddenly come upon a magnificent view of the Jungfrau, almost as impressive as Mt. Blanc. From that time on the great range gradually unfolds itself like the views of a panorama until at length we have all the highest peaks in full sight.

At Därlingen, we leave the steamer, and after a short wait, see a peculiar looking train dash through the tunnel, at the head of the lake, and then come puffing noisily into the station. This is the celebrated Bodeli railway, the second shortest in the world. It runs from Därlingen to Interlaken, a distance of a mile and a half. Its cars are especially adapted to sight seeing, being constructed in two stories, so that every one can have an outside seat, to fully enjoy the picturesque scenery between the two stations.

INTERLAKEN.

The one main street of Interlaken is chiefly devoted to hotels, especially the upper portion of it, for from this location one has the best view of the celebrated Jungfrau, that stands head and shoulders above the high Silberhorn on the right and the Schneehorn on the left. Further down, the street is occupied with tempting stores filled with Swiss wood carvings. From this time on nothing can be seen but wood carving, save perhaps an occasional bit of chamois horn.

It is a quaint old town, full of odd nooks and corners, that would afford interesting study for weeks at a time. While there are no particular attractions, Interlaken is a favorite resort of tourists, and is always full of strangers, who enjoy the mild, equable climate and find pleasure in resting.

The broad Walnut-lined Höheweg, a beautiful avenue leads down across an old-fashioned, massive stone bridge to a street set aside for markets. Here, during the forenoon is a miniature Petticoat Lane, only the people are all clean, picturesquely dressed and decent. There are no rum shops, reeking with the vile odors of stale liquors and still staler tobacco smoke; there are no intoxicated men and women. Everything is quiet, orderly and well conducted. But the variety of articles offered for sale is something astonishing. Here an enterprising woman, as stiff and formal as the high, white cap she wears, has a small stock of dry goods spread out on the pavement for the inspection of the picturesquely dressed peasants who trade their milk and farm products for clothing material. A little further on you will find a complete assortment of boots and shoes, of all kinds and conditions. There a man has a hat store, and a junk shop combined. At any place, almost, you can buy specimens of the Swiss skill in carving. These stores or exchanges are all on the street, along which it is difficult to thread one's way so crowded is it with buyers and sellers.

These narrow, crooked streets are lined with houses built the Lord only know how long ago. The long beams that cross each other in the front of the houses are carved and cut in every conceivable shape. Sometimes the artist was a little ambitious and attempted very elaborate work, not always successfully however, for the heads and figures that adorn the fronts of some of them are grotesque to a degree.

THE JUNGFRAU.

Interlaken is the starting point for most of the mountaineering parties that visit the Bernese Oberland, the chief point of interest centering about the Jungfrau, which is 1,367 feet high. The ascent of this mountain, which though very fatiguing is not dangerous, was first made in 1811, and between that time and 1856 it was only accomplished five times. Since the latter date however it has been made very frequently. We did not attempt to explore the icy regions, so far above the clouds, being perfectly content with our experience at Mt. Blanc.

WOOD CARVING.

Interlaken is the great distributing point for the vast quantities of carved goods made in this vicinity. There are a number of large factories in Interlaken, but the greater part of the work is done in the little towns near there. The displays made in the large stores are wonderful, some of the pieces being the work of genius. While every possible subject is treated, the carvers have a passion for bears, the heraldic emblem of some of the Cantons. You will see bears of every conceivable size, and in every attitude. Whole parties of them, playing billiards or cards, or dancing a quadrille; bears standing, sitting, lying down; bears everywhere and doing everything. Some of this work is wonderfully well done, the lines and spaces being so delicately cut that it seems as though a breath would break them.

On the way from Interlaken to Brienz, we passed through little Villages, whose one street was filled with wood carving establishments, and almost every house between the two places was a small factory for the manufacture of these pretty trifles.

At Brienz we went through a very large factory and saw the patient Swiss chipping away tirelessly at the huge piece of wood that was soon to be a medallion portrait. It is an art that require great skill and delicacy of touch to produce fine work. In this factory there were some 400 or 500 men employed, and the work they turned out was marvelously beautiful. In fact one cannot sufficiently admire the wood carving of the region. The patient workers do everything artistic in the material, and it is artistic. Landscapes, portraits, hunting scenes, animals, angels, scriptural subjects, everything that is done on canvass or in marble, is done in wood, and many of the pieces are purchased by crowned heads, and at a very high price.

WHAT THE ARTISTS GET.

The artists in wood are, however, very poorly paid, even for Switzerland. In America their wages would be considered as close to starvation as possible, without touching it. Think of a man capable of doing the most artistic work laboring at four francs a day, or 80 cents! This is as high as any, except an occasional phenomenal genius, gets, and they appear to be content with it. For this miserable sum they work so long as they can see, commencing at day-light and ending at dark.

True, living is very cheap and such as it is it ought to be. The wretched beer of the region is only about a cent a glass, and the black bread of the country costs next to nothing, and so the artist works all day and at night sits himself in his little cafe, and with his cheap wine and cheaper beer, plays cards contentedly, and enjoys himself thoroughly.

After all he is as well as though he got $70 a day. He couldn't drink any more wine than he does, and neither would additional pay enlarge his capacity for black bread, and what does he want of anything more? It isn't what you want—it's what you don't want that makes you rich. Even in little wood carving Brienz romance gets in.

A WOOD CARVER'S ROMANCE.

We saw on the street, there is only in Brienz, a young man whose demoralized clothing, fiery eyes and unsteady steps, all bore evidence to the terrible fact of dissipation. He was the first drunken man of the genus loafer we had struck in Switzerland. The young man who knows everything looked at him and promptly remarked:

"That young man has wisdom. He is cultivating a vice. When he wants to economize he has a basis for economy. Suppose he had always lived a perfectly correct life, and some emergency should come to him that demanded economy, what would he have to economise on? Every man should so live that he can, if he must, better himself. I admire that young man, for he leaves himself room for development."

The landlord gave us his history. The young man was ruined by prosperity. He was an industrious and very skillful carver and had attained 60 cents a day with an immediate prospect of a raise of 20 cents, which is the summit of a legitimate Brienz ambition.

He was engaged to be married to the daughter of a poor Swiss farmer who had three cows and a goat or two, and there was no reason under heaven why he should not have been happy. He had health, strength, skill, Josepha was beautiful, and there was nothing to prevent his marrying her, and settling down quietly to watch the development of her goitre, and passing a long and happy life.

But evil was hanging over them. An uncle of Rudolph's, who was a cook in Paris, died without issue, and left his entire estate, $68 50 to his nephew, our Rudolph, in Brienz.

Immediaately Rudolph grew cold towards Josepha. He did dot meet her on the little bridge after his work; he did not take her to fairs where the two drank beer lovingly out of the same mug; he did not always have some little present for her; in short he avoided her. To use the strong though not elegant English of the wild and untamed West, he "shook" her.

Josepha noticed this change, and wept in her enforced solitude. With true womanly instinct she felt what was coming. There was now an inseparable bar between them. Could she, a plain country girl, with no dowry to speak of, hope to wed a man with a fortune of $63.50?

And so she wept her lost love, her first love, which never comes again. One may love twice, but the second love has not the twang, the flavor, as it were, of the first. It is the difference of a meal on an empty stomach and the tail end of a feast.

They met and Josepha made one appeal to him. He answered briefly, brutally:

"I did love you, Josepha," he said, "and could love you again, were it possible. But you must remember, my girl, that circumstances have changed; I am a man of fortune—you are the daughter of a poor farmer with but three cows, and those to be divided among 10 children. And the price of cheese is sadly going down, and must still go down owing to the competition of the factory system in America, where they can imitate even our most penetrating Limburger, and sell it cheaper here than we can produce it. It is of no use to talk of buying our own product, all people buy where they can buy the cheapest. That is political economy.

"Had you an uncle, a cook in Paris, and liable to die, with $68.50, the aspect of things would be changed. But you have no such uncle, and really, Josepha, you cannot expect me, in my altered condition, to so throw myself away. No indeed. But I wish you well. Forget me, if you can, and marry some one in your own sphere, and be happy. You would not want to wed me, and see me miserable! Life would then be a burden to both. Be ye net unequally yoked."

Josepha weeping, turned away, for despite her love, she realized the truth of what he said. And Rudolph, whistling an air gaily went into the cafe, and sought to drown his feelings in wine.

He knew he had done a very mean thing, but he felt it to be impossible for a youth of his prospects to marry a penniless girl.

Reveling in his wealth he pursued his mad career and came to grief, as such men always do. He quit work, he dressed extravagantly, and finally he made an unlucky investment in stock which swept off every sou he had. His $68.50 were irrevocably gone, and Rudolph the Gay found himself without money, with an expensive appetite for wine and an extreme disposition to do no work of any kind.

One morning he heard a wild rumor that a brother of Josepha in America had made a strike in oil and had sent Josepha $500. Then his feelings toward that young lady changed. He went to her and remarked that he forgave her for her her treatment of him, that the cloud that had come between them and obscured their happiness had passed away, and that there was no reason now why they should not stalize the dreams of their youth and wed.

It was now Josepha's turn. She remarked that sentiment was all well enough, but that there was something in viewing matters from a mere worldly stand-point. Love was sweet, but fortunately the stock of the article in the world was not limited. It was not to be expected in her altered condition that she should unite her fortunes with those of a penniless man. She quite agreed with what he (Rudolph) had said to her on a former occasion. "Be ye not unequally yoked." She (Josepha) had now $500. He (Rudolph) had not a sou. Had he (Rudolph) $500, and had he the good habits of his youth when he was an humble worker in wood, she would wed him gladly, but as he (Rudolph) was, in the language of the world short of that amount, and as she (Josepha) had any quantity of coin, she rather thought she wouldn't. She should always regard him in the light of a friend, and should weep with great regularity when she thought of their severed loves, but there was a young farmer up the mountain who had twelve cows, and with her capital could double the stock, and she believed that her best show was with him.

And so Rudolph, penniless, loveless, and with an appetite which like jealousy, makes the meat it feeds on, is a mere cumberer on the earth about Brienz, the wreck we saw.

And Josepha, she married the young grazier, and has two children and one of the largest goitres in the neighborhood, and the two have prospered to the point of seriously contemplating the starting of a small inn, near a convenient waterfall, that they may fleece strangers, which is a more lucrative business in Switzerland than cheese-making or wood-carving.

GIESSBACH.

In the evening we were rowed across the Lake of Brienz to the Giessbach, the regular sight of the locality. The lake is 20 feet higher than Lake Thun, from which it is separated by a narrow strip of low land only two miles wide. It is thought that at one time the two lakes were joined. Lake Brienz is from 500 to 900 feet deep, its water being of a very dark blue.

THE GIESSBACH

consists of seven falls, the highest being 1,147 feet above the lake. The water comes from a lake in the summit of the mountain, and tumbles from rock to rock till it finds its level in the lake below. All the seven are visible at once, and the sight is one of the most delightful in Switzerland. Opposite the falls, on the other side of the enormous chasm, is a magnificent hotel, as a matter of course, where you are charged very reasonably, not more than twice what the same accommodations would cost you in a first class hotel anywhere else. For this reasonableness you try to feel thankful. One has to see the Giessbach, anyhow, and as there is but one place to stop the proprietor's facilities for swindling are unlimited. There a mere double charge may be classed as reasonable, especially as the sight is worth almost any expenditure.

It was nearly dark when we reached the Giessbach shore, so that we had but an imperfect view of the beautiful falls as we climbed up the steep path, leading to the terrace, 309 feet above the lake. But even in the half twilight they were wondrously beautiful as they dashed from rock to rock, hundreds of feet apart.

As it grew darker, the green foliage on each side threw out the silvery cascades, dancing from one to the other, in bold relief. Gradually darkness completely enveloped them, and we could see nothing but the dark, gloomy mass of mountains, down whose side for a thousand feet the water fell, from one pool to another.

The terrace on which the hotel stands was brilliantly lighted, and was filled with tourists who were spending some little time here, visiting the many beautiful spots that make the Giessbach one of the favorite resorts in Switzerland.

Suddenly, about 9 o'clock, a rocket flew skyward, from a point on the mountain opposite us. Then one went up from the terrace, and while we were admiring its flight high in air, the lights about the hotel and on the terrace were extinguished and we were left in utter darkness. A long drawn "Oh-h-h" involuntarily burst forth as the lowest cascade suddenly stood out before us a brilliant beautiful sheet of water of a delicate light blue tint. Then simultaneously the other cascades above shone forth in all their splendor. The scence was wonderful. It was fairy land.

Bengal lights of different colors were arranged back of the sheets of water so that each cascade was brilliantly lighted, producing an effect that was exquisitely and undescribably beautiful.

Gradually the lights went out, the gas at the hotel was relighted and we sailed back to Brienz with a picture of wondrous beauty printed indelibly on our minds.

MR. TIBBITTS'S PROPOSED SPECULATION.

Tibbitts who has rejoined the party after his attempt at reformation at the St. Gervais baths, (by the way his personal appearance is not a good advertisement for the waters, got an idea at Giessbach, which he developed thus:

"I have at last got my fortune made. What is wanted in Switzerland is more water-falls, with legends, more mineral springs, and more ruins, secular and sacred. As soon as I get back to New York, I am going to organize a company for a Waterfall, Ruin and Spring Company.

"But all the eligible water-falls are taken."

"Very true, and to get one we should have to pay too large a price. This is the very essence of my idea—I am going to create a water-fall. What is a waterfall, anyway? Nothing more than water pouring over a rock or other material. All that is necessary to a waterfall is an elevation, and water. Turn on the water and it can't help falling, and there you are.

"How shall we get water? Easily enough. A side of a precipice with a notch in it big enough for a hotel can be bought anywhere along the Lake of Brienz for almost nothing. What is more easy than to construct a reservoir on the top, put a 90 horse power engine in at the lake, and pump the water to the reservoir on the summit, and when visitors are there turn it on and give them the blessedest waterfall in all Switzerland. Keep the water on till after they all go to bed, and for an hour after, so that the roar will soothe 'em to sleep, and if rich Americans choose to stay up all night and buy wine, keep it on all night. We must have nothing mean about our waterfall.

"There are a great many advantages in this over the natural article. The water can be turned off while the lights are being placed behind the sheet for illuminations, and the flow can be regulated so as to suit every taste. If the party is made up of young ladies who delight in the soft and beautiful we can make a Minnehaha of it—if it is strong men and old maids who hunger for the grand, why whack on more steam and we can have a Niagara.

"About a mile or so away I am going to have a castle in ruins—ruins ain't expensive where there is so much rock, and I can have any newspaper man write me a proper legend for it for ten dollars. This for the history crank. For the more devout we want the ruins of an ancient church, which was destroyed by whoever you choose. This will fetch all those who are on their way to the Holy Land. They don't spend as much money for wine as the other classes, but we can make it up in charges for board and guides. The ruins must be so built as to make a guide necessary, and so extensive that two days will be necessary to get the proper views of them and to study their history understandingly.

"But this speculation will not be complete without mineral springs in the valley below.

"This is the easiest thing of the lot. You will build a reservoir and chuck into it a few barrels of salt, a few bushels of rusty iron filings with sulphuric acid, a ton or so of sulphur, (we must be liberal with sulphur for it is cheap) and any other articles that smell—asafœtida isn't bad—get it so thundering strong that it would drive a yellow dog out of a tanyard, and have it cure anything from original sin to corns. We want a gorgeous cure, and a corps of distinguished physicians, and an analysis of the water, and all that, and we can just rope in the money. We commence them at the Falls, we deplete them at the ruined castle, and dig into them at the ruined church, and finally finish them at the medicinal springs. We want a bank at the latter place, and, if the law permits it, a faro bank—anyhow we can get a Swiss hotel man, and if every blessed tourist doesn't have to draw more money before he gets out, then the race has lost its cunning.

"I am going to be President of this Company, with a brother-in-law I have in Wisconsin for Treasurer. There's money laying around loose and this scheme will corral all of it I shall ever want."

Tibbitts talked of his joint-stock Water fall, Ruin and Medicinal Spring Company all the way into Lacerne.

For the Blade.

THE GREAT EGYPTIAN PYRAMID,

A MONOGRAPH.

BY J. RALSTON SKINNER.

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I.

A very great deal is being at present written upon this subject, while public interest and curiosity furnish a sufficiency of readers, and listeners in the lecture room. It becomes a question, however, whether either readers or hearers, are becoming particularly wiser, or in any way immediately much benefitted by the profusion of essays as to this matter. The essayist generally seems to be working up to some presupposed idea, and gives loose to a play of imaginary results, for which he will most likely mold his pyramid data to suit, as clay in the hands of the potter.

Nor is this, after all, at all strange. When opportunity offers for building up a fascinating possibility with materials furnished, few are able to keep within the limits of the actual. Such kind of opportunity this pyramid has afforded, and the vagaries of thought wanton in every extreme of dreamland and fancy. Far be it from condemning this general condition. Almost to a man, everyone treating upon this charmed pillar, is led by threads of guiding passing through a mist, but connecting with a most dazzling prospect of a dawning good to his race. He feels that it is the beacon on the great pathway of the nations, telling of a final end to sorrowful groping for that kingdom of peace on earth and divine good will towards men, so long sought for. Though its significancy has up to a late date been passed by unheeded, yet to such an one, to whom attention is called, and who can perceive, it becomes plain, that though in the past mysteriously veiled from attention, it is of itself the very sign pointed to in Holy Writ. It is that permanent witnessing monument, battered and bruised by the storms of time, which has existed through the ages, and now suddenly becomes revealed, as containing a practical guide and teachings, to rest in the Lord—that harbor for the wearied, pilgrim nations. In it the Lord God is in some way to become manifest as the Great Shepherd and Leader. A power as of animal magnetism keeps irresistibly drawing the attention to this monument as possessed of such properties, and no matter how halting and imperfect the attempts are to fasten its strict working connection with a promised saving Providence, the great human heart yearns towards it with apparently increasing tenderness of desire, and persisting of endeavor, to discover that true reading of writers, which its instinct feels as residing there. Thus, arising from the very purity of motive, and hope, the vagaries of thought spoken of are not to be condemned, but rather to be thought of as the mode of gathering together cruder groupings of facts, with all their inconsistencies, and inconsequences of arrangements, which may at last chrystalize in beauty, harmony and perfect consistency about a clew thread of real truth and real explication.

Under this statement of apology,—to the visionary religionist, this pyramid is that "altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof," promised for a witness unto the Lord of hosts in the land of Egypt, in the far-off day when He should send a savior, and a great one,—in that day when Israel should be the third with Egypt, and with Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the land. To him it was builded under Divine inspiration—perhaps, even, under Divine oral diction—because in his judgment it was builded at a period in which such advances in geometry, measures, numbers and astronomical facts, could not have been humanly known. Therefore, those who performed the work must have builded more wisely than they knew. This ground once taken, then no limit to speculation can be placed. For instance:—This week dates, variously by different commentators, anywhere from 10,000 B. C. to 2,170 B. C.; at any rate ante-dating the Hebrew Nation, most of the Egyptian dynasties, the Greek and Roman periods, yet a prophetic chronology is claimed to exist in the mass, to be found in the numbers of the measures of its various parts. A passage way is claimed to be 1898 "pyramid inches" long, and then by some strange mental process of connection, all intermediate epochs of time are leaped over, and it is claimed that this measure was especially placed there to mark the year 1881 of the Christian era, with all the accuracy of a clock beating seconds, minutes, hours, etc. "And thus the appetite grows by what it feeds on." But to make more sure of this, if 1881 inches was found to be connected with the measure of 2,170 inches (the characteristic number of another cycle of years), this would fasten the two epochs together, and confirm the existence of this prophetic chronological scheme. Indeed, such was found to be the case, by taking a measure from the limit of the 1881-inch measure, and running it in a direction to terminate with a peculiar chisel mark found on a stone, a mark of measuring evidently not associated with mere mason work joints. Again, by another scheme of symbolic interpretation:—There is a descending passage way into the blackness of the depths of the earth, out of which passage, at a small distance from the entrance, begins to ascend another. The first is taken as a symbol of the sure broad road to destruction, signifying the pathway of those nations who should know not God. But all descending alike, a part were reserved, and by the covenanted mercies of God were to be led to ascend. A portion of these last really got on their way as high up as to a horizontal passage leading to what is called the Queen's chamber, where they (meaning the Jews) switched off, and have staid from that time even to to-day. This place of switching is at the beginning rise of the 1881-inch passage, and therefore it denotes that the Jews halted and swerved from their upward rise, at the end of the Great Cycle of 2,170 years, and at the beginning of that other of 1881 years, or rather, at the time of the birth of Christ. The Christian disciples, however, advanced upward to the top of the passage way, and are now on a dead level plane, with an open, but somewhat troublesome passage to the door of the grand era of the closing of the periods, and times, viz.: into the King's chamber, clothed in polished red granite.

As stated, far be it from the less spiritually enlightened to criticise these grounds or these conclusions. It is the better part not to pass upon matters of judgment as to which one has no mental reach, and is blind. It has been thought necessary to these articles, to plainly state some phases, and very popular ones, of pyramid study and research, by men of very great intellectual capacity, and power of bringing forth wisdom out of the mouldering past ages of the earth.

The number 2,170 is fastened on as the precise date in years B. C. of the building of this structure, because it indicated in years a noteworthy condition of the stars. It is thought that as a marker of the passing of cycles, no condition of the heavens, within a limit of time such as would support the accepted scope of Biblical chronology, could be so worthy as this. The chart of the heavens was this:

1. The star *a* Draconis (then the pole-star, instead of the present one) was within 2° 48′ of, and every night circled around, the true pole. When it was exactly, or very nearly so, below the true pole point at midnight on a particular night,

2. On the same meridian of longitude, and almost overhead the star Eta Tauri (Alcyone of the constellation of the Pleiades) was located, and

3. This position of the Pleiades was such as to begin for them the great cycle of the precession of the equinoxes, for it is said, "that night was the evening, or autumnal beginning of the primeval year, the Pleiades being at 0 hours night ascension, or in the celestial meridian of the equinoctial point." This cycle consists of more than 25,000 years, by this author quoted 25,827 years.

The fact relied on as connecting this condition of the heavens with the date of building the pyramid is, that that pole star, *a* Draconis, at its lower nightly culmination looked down the tube of the descending passage way. This assertion is not to be denied positively, simply because the fact may have been as stated; but then again it may not have been. The pole star of a period retains its position many hundreds of years, and for such a long time has nearly the same lower nightly culmination. This star *a* Draconis may have twinkled down the line of the tube of the descending passage way for many generations before the building thereof. Thus we are again forced to the recognition of a mental inability to see any proof of the date of the structure of this building in the above assertion.

Let us state another mode interpretation of this grand structure. It is an astronomical one, and one showing that it was intended, in the measure of its building, to monument the day value of the tropical year of 365 24-100 days. The idea once conceived, was a very happy one to be worked up to, and this was the way of its accomplished results: The French in 1799 had reported the measure of the side of base of the pyramid as 9,163 British inches. Col. Howard Vyse, in 1837, as 9,168 British inches. These measures were known to have been most carefully taken. Besides these Mahmond Bey in 1862 measured the same as 9,162 British inches most carefully taken. But a subsequent measurement returned the measure as 9,110 British inches; which measure was reported as not to be relied on, because the engineer lacked proper measuring instruments, and because of the almost insuperable difficulties to his correct measuring, in the lay of the ground, as he was equipped. But, on mature reflection, by the party thus reporting, it was adjudged proper to treat all these measures alike as to correctness, and to find a probable accurate result the mean of all was taken, which brought an intermediate measure for this base side of about 9,140 British inches; and this was then considered so close to 9,131 inches, that the last result was accepted as the right one, in terms of 9,131 so-called *"pyramid inches,"* a distinct unit of measure invented. This was done because from the particular use of 9,131, *it ought to have been* the measure to have been chosen by the original builder. This all done, and there was no further difficulty in declaring the exact measure of the base side of this mighty building, on its architectural plans, viz.: it was, in the terms of what is called a "pyramid inch," 9,131 pyramid inches long. The four base sides then would have an aggregate measure of 9,131×4—36,524 pyramid inches, and this would symbolize in numbers the day measure of the tropical year, or 365.24 days.

The authority for this last result, as for the majority of the others mentioned, is of so great celebrity, with such great distinction as a most accomplished astronomer, that it has been very widely accepted, without any question whatever as to the legitimacy of the grounds of obtaining it. His *"pyramid inch"* is authority, as the veritable one architecturally used, though indeed, the sources of its authentic derivation are somewhat obscure and lame.

To write at all on this subject matter seriously, in a practical, common-place way, and so as to afford data which will commend themselves to practical men as possibly, if not probably, or even indisputably true, one is obliged to clear up the ground beforehand, so as to distinguish his work as not derived from, or connected with, the mere speculative or theoretic; or rather from such like as herein before mentioned. It is for this reason that the above modes of dealing with this matter have been referred to. This is the apology for so referring to these modes of thought and conjecture, which are now so popular, and so prevalent. Such reference has been thought necessary to serve a proper introduction to a series of articles upon this pyramid.

[*To be Continued.*]

LADY ADELA.

I.

Edward Shafto was an idle, spoilt young man, who had often been called by the bad names of "flirt" and "adventurer." In the first of these characters he was so inconstant as to be hardly dangerous, except to people who had never heard of him before. He could not be devoted, even to an heiress. Yet he was ambitious, often wished to be rich, and had fancies of distinguishing himself in different ways; but as nothing could be gained without exertion of some kind, this lazy-minded man seemed likely to remain a poor nonentity all his days. Sometimes he talked about going in for science, and told his aunt, the only person who believed in him, that if he chose he could do great things, and make all sorts of discoveries.

"Well, my dear, why don't you?" said Miss Shafto, encouragingly.

"It is such an awful bore," replied Edgar.

He generally met his aunt in London, and for years had not thought it worth while to pay her a visit in the country; but one summer her letters were full of a new neighbor of hers, a certain Lady Adela, a girl whose relations were all dead, and who had come down for a time to a house she had in this quiet part of the world. Miss Shafto had an old friend who was related to Lady Adela's mother, and this old friend was now living with the heiress, who was much too young and pretty to take care of herself.

All these hopeful circumstances brought Mr. Edgar down one day to South Hazel, to his aunt's nice red house in the hilly village street. He had written the day before to say he was coming, but was too clever to wait for an answer. Old women, with their conscientious anxieties, had spoilt his plans once or twice before, he thought. If he could only manage to like Adela, why should not she like him? He was clever, handsome, of good family. What reasonable objection could there be? Edgar Shafto was not at all troubled with modesty, and was beginning to think that this shilly-shallying life had gone on long enough.

It was early in September when he came down to South Hazel, on a lovely afternoon. The harvest-wagons were creeping slowly home, up and down the hills; here and there a tree was turning yellow, the cottage gardens were full of flowers, and up above great flocks of fleecy clouds were weaving themselves into long low arches across the blue limpid sky. Other clouds were mounting slowly in heavier masses, away to the south. All these pretty sights, with the faint smell of wood-smoke in the air, just to remind one that it was Autumn, made Edgar feel quite charming as he strolled up the hill. He had heard that his aunt was at Hazel House; what could be better than to follow her there, and to get rid at once of the slight impatience and curiosity on his mind.

He found the ladies in one of the old walled-gardens, which opened into each other at the back of the house. They were standing by a bed of pelargoniums, a tall, fat and beaming, with the smile of a young woman; Mrs. Sackville, small and gentle, her hair in round white curls; Lady Adele, with a basket in her hand, gathering flowers, and much hindered by the caresses of two large dogs.

Edgar Shafto lost his heart immediately. He had often done it before, but this time he was almost surprised and alarmed at himself, for he could hardly take his eyes away from Lady Adela, and certainly not his thoughts. She was a lovely little person; not short, but slight and finely made, holding herself with the light, graceful uprightness that comes naturally to, perhaps, one woman in fifty thousand; Gainsborough's Duchess being an example of it. Her hair was dark, her eyes were very large and blue, her pretty delicate features were full of spirit and expression. To describe her in a few words, she was a sweet, fearless, high-bred little beauty. She wore a gray jacket and a shady hat, trimmed with large white daisies, and was ready to smile with a sort of angelic frankness on the young man as he came up to her, amidst the exclamations of the old ladies.

That delightful garden; its paths went winding among all sorts of flowers; mallows and salvias and anemones, pansies in varied crowds, hedges of sweet peas, still bright in color, and mignonette, which filled the air with sweetness. While his aunt, quite alive to the situation, and nervously afraid that Mrs. Sackville might suspect her, explaining what an unexpected pleasure Edgar's arrival was, he walked on with Lady Adela and her dogs, through these bright and fragrant ways. He was very agreeble; pleasant to look at, with brown eyes, good features, and a sweet though melancholy smile; pleasant to talk to, for he quite hid his feelings, and agreed with Lady Adela in an amiable dispassionate way about her flowers. There was some fun in disagreeing with her; she was so positive, and seemed to delight in fighting small battles for her favorites. Yet she had no conceit, and when she found out that Edgar knew more than she did, and could give her a whole list of scientific names, she was ready to look up smiling, and to take his opinion. They were getting on beautifully when Miss Shafto found it was time to go home.

Edgar, who had already promised to lend Lady Adela a book on carnations, could depart with an air of unconcern. When he was alone with his aunt, the artful young man went into no raptures, but began coolly talking of his own affairs. Miss Shafto, a naturally impatient woman, who wished to be the soul of prudence, but could not always manage it, soon burst out into questions: "Did he admire Lady Adela?"

"She seems a nice little thing," said Edgar. "Innocent; and fond of plants."

"But so pretty! Don't you think so?" exclaimed Miss Shafto, in amazement.

"Yes; a pretty little face," said the provoking Edgar. "What makes her live down here?"

"She has not been very strong, and this place agrees with her particularly well. I know Mrs. Sackville is very anxious about her."

"She looks well enough."

"Well, Edgar," said Miss Shafto, after a pause, "I am glad you are so sensible. I think her lovely, and that was what made me so nervous when you arrived. I was afraid you might fall in love with her, to tell you the truth, and that would be such a misfortune."

Edgar laughed slightly. "I am getting too old for that sort of thing," he said.

"That is nonsense, of course. But Mrs. Sackville and her friends mean her to make a great marriage—very rightly and naturally, too—and if my dear, penniless nephew—oh! it would seem too dishonorable, somehow! Mrs. Sackville would never believe that I had not asked you down on purpose."

"Is the lucky man fixed upon?"

"Well, we all think, you know. Nothing positive yet. Mrs. Sackville hinted the other day at Lord Elton; and, of course, there could be nothing more suitable; in fact, he is the only man in the county worthy of her."

"That little brute!" said Edgar, forgetting himself.

"Why, what do you know about him?"

"Nothing," he said, rather shortly. "If I knew him to be a scamp and a ruffian, what would be the use of telling you? You and Mrs. Sackville would think alike, no doubt. Lord Elton! What can his little faults signify?"

"Don't talk in that disagreeable way," said Miss Shafto, laughing. "Yes, we should think alike; and Lady Adela would agree with us. She is a very sensible girl, with no absurd romance about her. She will not throw herself away."

"It would be a pity if she did," said Edgar. Then he began to whistle, and then to talk about something else, with such an interesting air that his aunt smiled at her own anxieties.

He stayed on from day to day, and saw Lady Adela many times, keeping up a successful self-control that surprised herself. It was a new thing to exert himself like this; to be strong in holding back and hiding from other people's quick eyes the first real passion that he had ever known. Only the knowledge that discovery would mean banishment, could have given such resolute power to the idle, self-indulgent Edgar. The strangest chances were always bringing him and Adela together during the fortnight that he stayed at South Hazel. Every day she became more attractive. She had the high, wild spirits of a child, yet with such dignity that no one could treat her as a child. Edgar saw her look haughty and scornful once or twice, and that was enough for him; it added a sort of bitterness to his love for her; if she knew, would not she turn her little head away, with a curl of the lip that was enough to plunge one into purgatory! He called himself a fool and lest all hope, if he ever had any; but then next morning he would meet her riding her black pony, sunny and smiling as the day; or would find her walking with the dogs, or gathering flowers; or would see her sweet, grave face in church, listening to the rector's long sermon. He himself, in his effort to command himself, appeared to be more languid, lazy and indifferent than ever before. He seemed to care less, as he grew every day to care more, and was thoroughly, sharply and comfortably miserable. The touch of her hand made him turn pale; and when she passed him it was only by a violent struggle that he could prevent himself from kissing the fringe of her dress. All this time he managed to deceive his aunt and Mrs. Sackville. Whether Lady Adela herself was equally blind may, perhaps, be doubted; for the most resolute person cannot always command his eyes. But she was a very sensible girl, as Miss Shafto said, and also, in those days, a little hard-hearted. It would have been unnatural if the man had not admired her; and she did not find it necessary to deny him her smiles.

Miss Shafto liked having her nephew with her, and was only too glad that he should stay, as long as his behavior was so perfectly satisfactory. For anything she knew or cared, this state of things might have gone on through the Autumn; but a fortnight of it was enough for Edgar. He soon found that there were limits to his endurance of this kind of life, in which joy and pain were mingled in such a maddening way.

One morning he went out about 10, without telling his aunt where he was going. As he came near Hazel House, he saw a figure moving far away in the garden. He dashed through the garden door, fortunately meeting no one; for he would have found it difficult to give an account of himself.

Lady Adela was on her favorite sunny terrace at the end of the garden—a high wall shadowed by evergreen hedges, and divided from the field beyond by a low stone wall quite covered with ivy, with red pots full of flowers set upon it here and there. Here she was amusing herself with a cat and kitten, which were racing each other and playing up and down. She met Edgar with her usual sweetness, laughing at her own childishness, for the cat and kitten had a most eager playfellow.

"Is Miss Shafto here? Are you come to fetch me," she said; but then a startled look came, and drove her smiles awey.

Edgar had come to the end of his restraints and his subterfuges.

"I am going away," he said. "It is all very well for you—of course you don't care, and you have never thought of me—but I shall go mad if I stay here any longer."

Lady Adela blushed violently. She looked at him for a moment, with some expression in her blue eyes that he could not understand, but he soon found out that it was only surprise and annoyance.

"Then you had better go," she said in a low voice.

"Don't be so awfully cruel," said Edgar, trembling. "Do you think that a man could see you every day for a fortnight, and not worship you? Some fellows might have gone away and said nothing, but I could not do that. Are you so very angry with me?"

"Yes. You ought to have gone away. It is not right."

As the stern little lady said this, turning half away from Edgar, her kitten made a spring and clung to her dress. She took it up and fondled it in her hands; the little thing purred, and rejoiced in her kindness, while poor Edgar looked on with dark gloomy eyes.

"Why isn't it right, if I love you better than life?" he said. "Why should I tell you so? Now forget everything else, and tell me the truth. If you were a girl with nothing, would you find it impossible to marry me? Do you hate me as much as that?"

There was a long silence. It seemed that Lady Adela could not, or would not, answer. Edgar gazed at her, and she at the kitten, which went on purring, while the cat rushed about in the bushes, and the wind rustled the trees softly, and far away there was a sound of singing. It was very provoking, certainly, to be made love to by an impossible person on such a morning, when all creation was enjoying itself.

"If you did not feel that you ought to make a great marriage, could you think of me?" said Edgar at last, very humbly.

"Don't ask me!" said Lady Adela, with a sudden shiver, and a tiny stamp of her foot. I think you are very impertinent, and I never was more astonished in my life."

Edgar stood breathless for a moment this severe snubbing.

"It's true. I suppose I am," he said, rather dreamily. "An idle dog like me does not even deserve to be refused civilly."

"I beg your pardon," she said, with a little haughty air that became her wonderfully. "I am sorry if I was rude. Good-by."

"Good-by, indeed! That means that I shall go and blow my brains out," said Edgar. "Can't you have a little pity—are you sending me away forever?"

He was very tragical. The idea of driving him to suicide perhaps alarmed her a little, for she was very young. But not being in the least a weak girl, if she felt sorry, she felt rather scornful too.

"No, you must never come back," she said, and then, with a shade of hesitation—"at least not for seven years."

"Seven years! Thank you! You are very merciful," repeated Edgar, bitterly. "To come back for the pleasure of finding you married to some one else—of being introduced to the Duchess of something or other—that will be a privilege indeed."

"Now it is you who are rude," said Lady Adela, indignantly. "I can't talk to you any more!"

"Very well. You have broken my heart—cruel, hard-hearted girl! You will soon hear that I am dead—people don't live through such an agony as this."

"I thought they generally did," said Lady Adela as she walked away.

Edgar rushed after her, threw himself before her, seized her hands, and kissed them furiously. He was so violent that Lady Adela almost cried with fright, but to him she only appeared extremely angry.

"There! I hear my aunt calling me. Go away at once,

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TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, FEB. 23.

FOR THE LADIES.

After next January, women taxpayers will possess the same voting privileges in Scotland as men taxpayers.

An odd nick-name: A South End man calls his wife Crystal because she is always on the watch.—*Boston Transcript.*

A Brooklyn wife has been arrested for whipping her husband. Instead of being a good for nothing woman she is good for thumping.—*Philadelphia Chronicle.*

Roaring rapture: Somebody heard a Boston girl say: "I think he looked like a perfect raving angel in uniform! He was awful heavenly."—*Hartford Times.*

A Denver reporter asked Alice Oates how old she was, and she replied, "I am 22." "Were you 22 recently?" inquired the reporter innocently, at which the little kicker said she detested newspaper reporters.

It is useless for a lady to swing down the aisle of the parquet with the air of one who has just alighted from the family carriage, when there are several long straws attached to her train.—*Philadelphia Telegraph.*

The Marquis of Lorne has a high opinion of Manitoba as a matrimonial field for young women. He said not long ago that those happy maidens emigrating to that country "would get an offer of marriage about every day."

Lady Haberton's dress reform movement is rapidly gaining ground in England. She does away with the white underskirts, which are not white for any length of time when worn in the streets, and substitutes for them full trousers, with a flounce that mingles with the drapery of the short skirt.

Unless the Philadelphia *News* is oversanguine, the coming servant girl will say to her mistress: "You will please not associate with Mrs. X., I do not know the woman, but I hate the lady who works in her kitchen, and could not think of permitting any intimacy between the two families."

At dessert the guests are telling anecdotes freely in the presence of the host's daughter, a blushing, timid girl of 17. "There was rather a good thing I heard the other day," says one, "but it was a little low in the neck, as it were, and in the young lady's presence——" "Oh, never mind me," says the young lady graciously, "I'll shut my eyes. Go on."

Mrs. Mary A. Livermore says that one evening, 20 years ago, a few ladies interested in the welfare of women, discussed the employments open to women, and they counted 11 and could think of no more. Recently the same ladies repeated the enumeration, and were able to point out 87 employments which women could engage in.

Minnie Madden and Grace Crary, Illinois girls, of 18 and 19, are making a tour of the West on bicycles. They started early in the Fall, and when cold weather set in at the North they had reached Texas. They are not doing it for show purposes, but for health and diversion. A man servant attends them, and they carry a small quantity of baggage, their trunks being sent ahead by express. They intend to cross the country to Florida by Spring, and then move up along the coast.

Mme. Elise Von Koerber, a philanthropic German lady, is in New York, consulting with prominent citizens of that City for the organization of a special movement looking to the immigration of German women to this country, to their protection on the voyage, and to the securing of employment on their arrival here. From her statements it appears that the constant exodus of young men from that country leaves a surplus of women, and that at present there are 2,000,000 more women than men there. These women find it difficult to live. Her scheme is to find something for them to do in this country, where there are more men than women, and where there are certain departments of female labor that need them.

PERSONS AND THINGS.

Of course it is generally conceded that the person who is struck speechless with joy is a mute-elated being.—*Rome Sentinel.*

"I'll make a note of this" as the sharper said when he got a farmer to write his name on a piece of paper.—*Marathon Independent.*

The oldest inhabitant is generally a man; not because he is given to lying, but because he commences owning up to his age sooner.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

Customer—"You say that those figures are life-size? My dear sir, they seem very small." Artist—"Perfectly correct, sir; you know 'life is short.'"—*Figaro.*

Helena, M. T., is thinking of closing its saloons on Sunday in order to give the poor overworked saloon-keepers a day of rest and a chance to go out and see the dog fights and horse races.

> Life is real, life is earnest,
> And our legs, though stout and brave,
> Will at space of time be flying,
> Upward shooting from the pave.
> —*Modern Age.*

Pat, jr., (in answer to inquiry by Saxon tourist)—"There's five of us, yer honor, an' the baby." Saxon—"And are you the eldest?" Pat, jr.—"I am, yer Honor, at present!"—*London Punch.*

Boston *Post*: Kentucky wants groundhog day made a legal holiday. It might as well be, as on that day you can't get a Kentuckian to do anything but watch a groundhog's hole, anyway.

A druggist of Bolton Falls, Virginia, has been sent to prison for 60 days "for selling liquor as a beverage." Wonder what they would have done with him if he had sold it as a liver pad or as a wash for removing freckles.—*Texas Siftings.*

"How d'ye like the sermon this morning?" asked a good brother of the deacon as he passed out of the vestibule. "Good, loud, forcible speaker," replied the deacon, "but when there's so much noise, I always think it was made by a blank cartridge."—*New Haven Register.*

There are only 115 works in the English language which the blind can read. Producing books in raised letters is very expensive, and of course the sales are small, so that their publication is a matter of charity. The Perkins Institute of Boston have almost raised a fund of $100,000, with which they will issue 12 books a year indefinitely.

"Pretty cool morning this, Mr. Shuttle," was the salutation of his neighbor.

"Yes, yes," was the response as Mr. S. rubbed his hands briskly. "I found ice on my doorstep this morning."

"Indeed! I had no idea it was as cold as that."

"The iceman left it there; but I've ordered him not to do it any more this season." It was a mean way to get "asked 'round the corner."

AN EEL STORY.

Experience of a Broadway Fisherman.

Brooklyn Eagle.

"Eels is bitin' very good this Winter," observed a Newtown man to the *Eagle* cashier as he fished around in his pocket for a marriage notice and paid the expenses of insertion.

"Catch many?" asked the cashier, checking the notice.

"Doin' pretty well, pretty well," replied the old man. "I ketched one the other day which was considerable ell. Ye see I went to the crick in the mornin' and cut a hole in the ice and dropped the hook. In about a minute I knowed I had a bite and I went for him. When I'd got 10 yards of him out I began—"

"Got what?" demanded the cashier.

"Ten yards of him. Ye see, I couldn't tell how big he was goin' to be, so I just pulled his head over my shoulder and streaked for home, only a mile. Then I followed along back to the hole and he wasn't all out yet"

"How big was he?" asked the cashier with round eyes and standing hair.

"Hold on till I tell ye. Then I takes another grip on to him and reaches for home again, but that didn't seem to fetch the whole of him. Well, sir, I traveled between the house and the hole all day long, and when I got him all out he made a coil on my farm a quarter of a mile in diameter and 400 yards high! Fact, sir! I tell ye he was considerable eel"

"What kind of bait do you generally use for that size of eel?" asked the cashier sarcastically.

"Whiskey," replied the Newtown man. "I used three pints of whiskey on that eel. Drank it the night before, you know!"

The result of which was that his marriage notice went into the death column and the cashier sat around and chewed his nails all day.

Liquid or Dry.

Some people prefer to purchase medicines in the dry state, so that they can see for themselves that they are purely vegetable. Others have not the time or desire to prepare the medicine, and wish it already to use.

To accommodate each class the proprietors of Kidney-Wort now offer this well known remedy in both liquid and dry forms.

Sold by druggists everywhere.—Fresh.

FROM IRELAND.

Martial Law in Edenderry—Arrests on Suspicion—A Day of Humiliation—Plain Words by the Clergy

The War on Women—Ladies' Land League—Imprisonment of Members—A Model Stipendiary Magistrate—The Case of Miss Reynolds—A Law that is Not Good in England, Operative in Ireland—A Crown Witness.

DUBLIN, Jan. 21, 1882.

Edenderry, Kings County, is called a pretty little Town in Ireland. In any other country it would be described as a pretty Village. If it contain 2,000 of a population, including every human being from the new-born babe to the oldest inhabitant, then its size is exceedingly deceptive. Yet, as I write, it is

HELD BY A MILITARY FORCE,

composed of the 21st Regiment of Hussars, a rifle brigade, a detachment of engineers, and some hundreds of the martial body called Constabulary here, though with their rifles and sword-bayonets and other soldierly equipments they strike a stranger's eye as men trained for warlike rather than police duties. And warlike in truth is the occupation of the police as well as the soldiers in the Edenderry district. Not that the inhabitants are in revolt or have taken up weapons against the constituted authorities. On the contrary, they are as peaceful a people as any on the face of the earth; but they absolutely refuse to buy any of the "boycotted" hay of Maj. Armitt, and fling trees across the roads to interfere with its removal to another place. For this latter cause they have been put under martial law—not indeed in name, but in fact. The patrols have received strict orders to fire upon any one found interfering with the highways, and this edict can be depended on only one ground—namely, that the

CIVIL LAW HAS BEEN SET ASIDE

for the monstrosity known as martial law. Of course, it is illegal to bar passage on the highways by throwing trees or any other impediments upon them, or by roughing the macadamized surface; but for this offense the legal penalty is only a comparatively short imprisonment. What is to be said, then, of a military order which condemns men to death for an act which is undoubtedly criminal, but for which the offenders can be legally punished only by incarceration for a while in a jail? Such an order wears even a worse aspect when it is considered that there is not even a trial by drumhead court-martial held to convict in the case; that the patrols at best can only guess at what a man may be doing on the highway on dark nights, such as we have here just now; and that the most innocent wayfarer, proceeding on his lawful business along the road, may in these circumstances be shot through the heart on sight by a suspicious sentinel.

I am not exaggerating matters in the least. Here, for instance, is something to stagger American readers. Last Sunday evening, at 9 o'clock, a patrol observed a little group of four or five men standing together on the road opposite the chapel of Cloughjordan. It is not even alleged that these men were engaged in any unlawful occupation whatever; yet the patrol, on seeing them begin to move away, called after them to stop, and fired upon them because they did not. Blood in a copious quantity was found on the road next morning, as if at least one of the men had been severely wounded. Now, anyone who knows anything of Irish rural life must be aware that there is nothing unusual or suspicious in people standing for a few minutes together outside their place of worship on a Sabbath evening for a friendly chat before separating for their respective homes. There is no curfew law to make it a punishable offense to be out of one's domicile after sundown in Ireland at present, though there was such a law, not only in existence, but in active force, no earlier than 10 years ago. Nevertheless, any man found away from home after sunset in three-fourths of this island is now liable to be

ARRESTED ON SUSPICION

of something or other, to be kept certainly for one night in the cell of a police station, to be taken before a stipendiary magistrate next day, and remanded for a week, a fortnight or a month at the discretion of the extra-suspicious and avowedly hostile functionary. A "remand" of this kind means a committal to a common jail, and the magistrate nowadays does it almost as a matter of course to give the police time to hunt up the antecedents of the party brought before him on suspicion of his having done "something." Woe be to him if he has ever been a member of the Land League organization! Failing to find a particle of evidence of his having been guilty of any offence known to the law, the authorities send him to prison under a coercion act warrant. Naturally men of any class, and especially peasants, do not care to run risks of the kind I have indicated, and consequently try to avoid interviews with the patrols if possible. In fact, they prefer to run away when the sentinels shout out "Stand!" Is it not quite natural that they should do so under the circumstances, and it is not monstrous that they should be fired upon for not obeying a call which has no legal right to be made on them?

This brings me to a point which I wish to make quite clear. Parliament can of course, turn out any acts it chooses. It can impose the curfew law as it did a few years ago; it can

UNSET ALL THE LAWS OF THE REALM OF IRELAND,

and put martial law in its stead; it is, in short, omnipotent in legislation. But the most singular feature of the present situation here is that in backing up the system of Irish landlordism, which Parliament itself solemnly condemned by its Land Act of last year, the Government has imposed martial law, and curfew law, and all the rest, on this little country, without referring to Parliament in any way. Sheer despotism has been set up here by the authorities themselves, whose real business it is to administer the law as they find it, instead of overriding it and snapping their their fingers at it, as they do whenever they find its restrictions hampering to them. I have dealt at some length on this Edenderry affair, because it affords striking confirmation of the truth of an assertion I made in a previous letter about the audacious way in which the Irish Administration

IGNORES LEGALITY IN ITS PROCEEDINGS,

when law and justice appear to be inconvenient in its eyes. Martial law, without Parliamentary sanction for it, must astonish American citizens; but the facts are as I have stated them, nevertheless.

I notice that the Confederate Cross Roads Sage has been assailed by captious critics for his illustrations of Irish landlordism. Perhaps those worthy, though skeptical parties, would believe some of what has been said here lately by partisans of the landlords themselves. A week ago there was a "day of humiliation" set apart, in accordance with a pastoral issued by the Archbishops and Bishops of the Episcopalian Church of Ireland, on account of the

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Perhaps it is necessary to inform your readers that very few here not connected with the landlord interest belong to the Episcopalian Communion. Some of the sermons preached on the day of humiliation were sent to the press. The preachers of these were themselves landlords, every man of them. Archbishop French, of Dublin, mounted the pulpit in Christ Church Cathedral. A few months ago he sternly refused any abatement of rent to his tenants for the losses they had sustained through bad season and foreign competition, and very plainly gave them to understand that eviction would remorselessly follow any failure to satisfy his demand for the full "pound of flesh." On the day of humiliation, however, he preached from the suggestive text, "Now, therefore, thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Consider your ways;" and this landlord Archbishop told his landlord audience: "We are met, not to denounce the sins of others, but to lament, bewail, and learn how to forsake our own." The Bishop of Cork in the course of his sermon on the same day said to his landlord congregation: "Surely no one will say that any one class in Ireland is altogether free from blame in reference to the condition of the country at the present moment." What their graces and lordships hinted at in this courtly and delicate fashion was spoken out bluntly by many of the inferior clergy. For instance, the Rev. and Venerable Maurice De Baigh, Archdeacon of Kildare, spoke as follows: I clip the extract from the paper here so that you may be able to show it in print to any friend who doubts its authenticity:

"Let us confess to-day that in the former days of our ascendency we bore ourselves too proudly and too harshly. We leaned more on the strong arm of physical force than on the powerful and enduring influence of forbearance, gentleness, and sympathy towards those over whom we had obtained the mastery. Our religion had too much of a political cast. We relied too much on the arm of flesh. We were not mindful of the saying of our Blessed Lord and Saviour—'My kingdom is not of this world;' and of His apostle—'The weapons of warfare are not carnal.' There was throughout the land a love of pleasure, of which we have for some time been reaping the bitter fruits. Perhaps, this fault, more than anything else, was the seed sown broadcast through the land, which is now yielding the largest harvest of sorrow. It was and it is still the bane of our country—a lack of seriousness in estimating the work and duties which lie before us—a yielding to present ease or enjoyment—a neglect of provident foresight and a casting aside of important but unwelcome duties. This I firmly believe has been the chief source of discontent in our country. It has worked on every class—on the owners of property, many of whom, as we all know, forgot that property has its duties as well as its privileges, and cared not what exactions were enforced provided that they were furnished with means of living well and pleasantly, and the devotion shown by their superiors led them into a thoughtless, extravagant pursuit of pleasure."

The Archdeacon, it will be seen, spoke a good deal more plainly than the bishops; but still, being a dignitary of the Church, his phrases have not the direct outspokenness of the sermons of the mere rectors. I make another clipping for reasons already given to substantiate what I have said. The preacher in this case was the Rev. John Kemmison, M. A. Rector, of Moate, County Westmeath. You will notice, I hope, that I am taking these quotations from addresses delivered at places hundreds of miles apart. I have done so of et purpose, lest any one should think I had cooked up a case by reproducing as general what might might be applicable only to a limited district of this country. Here is a portion of Mr. Kemmison's discourse:—

"Those who were suffering had brought it on themselves. As a Church they were unfaithful. The landlords of this land, the present landlords, had been grievously unfaithful. Instead of planting around them a loving yeomanry they took no trouble—now trouble had taken them. To be manly and respectable disqualified a tenant from favor. Irreligion was prevalent. It was thought a hardship to be an hour and a half in a church—and up to the very door, worldly topics were rediscussed and taken up again going out. Some made an idol of sport—one regretted to him that there should be any Summer, as it interfered with the hunts. He was not opposed to rational amusements if they did not keep religious duty from their hearts. He grieved to say some Protestants never attended Divine worship. Their Sundays were devoted to drinking and gambling. Providence was chastising them for their offenses."

Now when landlords in the pulpit feel themselves obliged to talk in such a fashion to

LANDLORDS IN THE PEWS,

can any rational man believe for a moment that the Sage has overdrawn in the slightest degree the pictures which came under his eyes during his tour in Ireland?

The "war on the women" is still going on, though not so actively as a couple of weeks back. Eight ladies are now undergoing imprisonment for their connection with the charitable association known as the

LADIES' LAND LEAGUE.

Four of these are connected with the Drumcollogher branch of the society; three others attended a meeting of the Ladies's Land League of Clontukert, County Roscommon. These seven have each been sentenced to a month's durance in jail, on grounds to which I will refer presently, and which I have no doubt will give a shock to every reader of the BLADE. Miss Hannah Reynolds, late of cell 48, Cork jail, has finished her term of imprisonment and is now at liberty. The eighth of the imprisoned ladies has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment by an Eastern Bashaw, who rejoices in the style and title of Major Clifford Lloyd, who goes about

WITH AN ARMED ESCORT

day and night; and who wears chain armor for fear of untoward accidents—who does, in brief, whatsoever he likes to do, be it legal or illegal, and who, for that express reason, is regarded by the Lord Lieutenant's Chief Secretary, Mr. Forster, as the very pink and model of stipendiary magistrates in Ireland. Other magistrates can goad themselves betimes into imprisoning benevolent women for a month, admittedly without being able to convict them of any offense whatsoever; Clifford Lloyd trebles the term apparently with pleasure. These eight ladies have all been sent to jail, as Miss Reynolds was, not because they had

COMMITTED ANY CRIME

of any sort, or had contravened the law in any way. King Edward the Third of England, being a despotic monarch, issued an ordinance to his subjects during his lifetime, nearly five centuries ago, empowering his Magistrates to arrest people "not of good fame," and to hold them to bail "to be of good behavior" foor a certain term. This ordinance never "ran" in Ireland, for it was never adopted by the Irish Parliament; in England it is as dead and immovable as King Edward the Third himself. Yet it is now brought forward in Ireland to enable paid Magistrates there—in other words, the

TOOLS OF THE EXISTING ADMINISTRATION,

with their offices and salaries depending solely on their compliance with the wishes of the government of the day—to send people to prison, without even a charge of any kind against them, if they do not find bail "to be of good behavior" for a specified period. There is not the smallest exaggeration in this statement, however absurdly improbable it may seem to citizens of the free United States. But I know I must give proof to the readers of the BLADE to obtain even a chance of credence. Well, here it is. The case of Miss Reynolds was brought before the Court of Queen's Bench this week, on appeal from the decision of the paid Magistrate who inflicted a month's imprisonment on her. The Irish Attorney-General appeared at the hearing to fight for the Magistrate

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Just listen to his argument: He said that the contention of Miss Reynolds' counsel "was based on the erroneous assumption that the order (incarcerating the lady) was in the nature of a conviction, and that the imprisonment was in the nature of a punishment." Further he submitted to the Court "that the holding of Miss Reynolds to bail for an offense, and that the order made to give bail was not in the nature of a punishment." And the two Judges who represented the Sovereign of the British Empire in the Court of her own Irish bench waived a decision on the case until they could have time to consider the argument of the Attorney-General that is to say, until they had got their case from that

MYSTERY OF INIQUITY.

Dublin Castle. Meanwhile Miss Reynolds's term of imprisonment expired and she was released. Then the two Judges aforesaid solemnly took their places on the bench this very day; solemnly pronounced King Edward the Third's ukase the perfection of legislation; and left every man, woman and child in Ireland—not in England, be it observed—liable to be

DRAGGED BEFORE A HIRED MAGISTRATE,

trembling for his place and income, and there put under terms which are both an insult and an atrocity. To find bail means to admit consciousness of indefensible behavior previously; but it also means more, for the magistrate can estreat the bail if he objects to anything said or done afterwards by the person who gives it. The liberty of such a person is thus surrendered—he is no longer a free agent—he is merely a hostage. To be asked inferentially to admit oneself guilty of some crime or other, is insulting; to be asked to tie oneself up, while guiltless, in such a way that the ordinary rights of citizenship are lost, is atrocious; yet

THIS IS THE ALTERNATIVE

put before the Irish people by to-day's decision of the Court of Queen's Bench Need I say that the Irish people will pay small consideration to this decision, and are ready to take long odds on their chance of defeating the much-defunct Edward the Third?

Connell, of Mill street, is to appear in the character of

A CROWN WITNESS,

as I expected. You may look for some extraordinary revelations when he steps into the witness-box, as he will in a few days.

FASHION NOTES.

New York Tribune.

New trains are pear-shaped.
Gold tulle trims evening dresses.
Safrano roses are again in fashion.
The new blue is called bleu-de-mer.
Faille is coming into fashion again.
Guipure guimps are in new dresses.
Pearl combs are a Parisian novelty.
Velvet dresses need little trimming.
Yellow diamonds are in great favor.
"Sulphur lace" is a new importation.
Worth loops tulle drapery with birds.
Tulips are worn with street costumes.
Tiny humming-birds loop lace drapery.
Double trains complete French dresses.
The English dress is worn by children.
Pink acacias trim garnet velvet dresses.
Scantly gathered frills trim new dresses.
A comb of roses fastens up low coiffures.
French dresses are voluminous at the back.
A mammoth sunflower is the new valentine.
Oval necks are newer than Pompadour squares.
Two points finish the back of new evening dresses.
Tan colored fluffy feathers appear on black bonnets.
Narrow mantelets, like scarfs, match new costumes.
Violet velvet corsages are worn with white moire trains.
New bodices have short basques pointed in back and front.
Dresden china shepherdesses afford models for Parisian toilets.
India mull, with rosebuds, is used for trimming velvet bodices.
Pink hyacinths are worn with pink, white, or black dresses.
White silk-muslin is used for the entire ball dress of debutantes.
"Eighteenth Century embroidery" is the name given new open work.
Ladies with Titian red hair delight in black satin and jet toilettes.
A jabot of lace trims each side of the square neck of dinner dresses.
Ecru Venetian embroidery is used on black velvet and satin dresses.
Cardinal velvet mantles, bordered with black fox fur, are worn in Paris.
Diamond flowers and stars on quivering stems shine in full dress coiffures.
An odd but attractive brooch is a cock's head in-pink and white diamonds.
Black velvet and white satin are combined in full dress toilettes for matrons.
Among the most elegant wraps are seal-skin circulars with sable tail borders.
Embroidered pelerines, with a large bow at the back, will be worn in the Spring.
Moss green bonnets, trimmed with pale yellow and gray tips, are the newest fancy.
Long, slender, bugle-like beads of iridescent hues are set at intervals over new faille bonnets.

RECENT LITERATURE.

SNAP:—A story of the Ox Train Era, and Early Troubles of Border Life, by T. Buchanan Price, of the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. W. B. Smith & Co., Publishers, N. Y. Price, $1.00.

This new publication is a portrayal of border life in an era little touched upon, contains scenes thrilling and dramatic, and keeps up its interest to the end. The plot and moral are excellent, the characters sharply and clearly drawn, and are well and strongly conceived. It is written with a free pen, is full of incident and adventure, much of which is exciting, and the reader's interest cannot fail to be absorbed in the matter that never flags and is continually fascinating. Touching as it does the transactions of a peculiar period, people and habits, now fast passing away, it will be read with pleasure by all admirers of American adventure. The book apparently will be a great success.

POTTER'S MONTHLY.

The February number of *Potter's American Monthly* presents an attractive variety of literary matter, much of it illustrated. The principal articles are: "Pictures of Andalusia," "A Story of the White Czar," "Journalism in Paris," "Music an Art, Not an Accomplishment," "The Death Penalty," "Personal Reminiscences of Madame Murat," "Kith and Kin" (chapters xxxiv-xxxix.) "A Suabian Romance," "Freaks of a Somnambulist," "Sweet Wife" (a poem,) "Le Valet du Diable," "A Winter Reverie" (a poem,) Mr. Cimabue Brown on the "Defensive," "Roger Williams," and "Bewitched in Mid-Ocean."

GERMAN WINES

Not so Pure as it is Wished We Should Believe.

Berlin Letter.

Beer, which has supplanted wine at the dinner tables of some of the best Vienna hotels, is not countenanced by the higher class *restaurateurs* and hotel keepers of Berlin, with whom the consumption of wine is a matter of stern expectation. Like more pretentious connoiseurs, the average Berliner in his judgment of wine is guided exclusively by the label on the bottle and the seal on the cork. Many wines labeled Chateau Margaux, Lafitte, Leoville, &c., are commonly sold in Berlin at about two-thirds of the price they could command at the place of production were they really the grand *crus* they pretend to be. They are, however, mostly deep colored, alcoholic, Southern growths made up to suit the German market. Even the Rhine wines obtainable at Berlin although invariably dear, are, as a rule, of doubtful authenticity. To show the value of the labels to which the natives pin their faith, I may mention that, no matter what description of wine you may select from the "Weinkarte" at many Berlin restaurants, you are pretty certain always to get the same liquor, except that it will, of course, be red or white, according to your order. What the waiter does is to select from the packet of adhesive labels which he carries in his pocket one tallying with your order, lick it, and clap it on the side of the bottle, a minute or two before bringing it to you.

Figures Never Lie.

Texas Siftings.

There is a clerk in an Austin store who is a wonderful mathematical genius. He beats the world, and his customers, when he comes to add up. A lady bought some groceries a few days ago, and on asking how much she owed, the clerk told her rapidly:

"You had two bits worth of starch, and two bits worth of soap, which makes four bits, and two bits worth of candles, which makes six bits, and you didn't buy any candy, which makes two bits more, so you just owe a dollar and a quarter."

The lady, whose mind was occupied with a new bonnet, absent mindedly paid over the money and went out.

It Was.

Boston Journal.

It was doubtless at a late hour of the Albany Grant Club banquet, and after partaking of an undue quantity of fluid inspiration, that a member said that Mr. Coakling "is the grandest son of the grandest State of the grandest Union God's sun ever kissed with its loveliness."

THE LESSON OF THE WATER-MILL.

BY MISS SARAH DOUDNEY.

"But this I say, brethren, the time is short."

Listen to the watermill
Through the livelong day,
How the clicking of its wheel
Wears the hours away!
Languidly the autumn wind
Stirs the forest leaves,
From the fields the reapers sing,
Binding up the sheaves;
And a proverb haunts my mind
As a spell is cast;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Autumn winds revive no more
Leaves that once are shed,
And the sickle cannot reap
Corn once gathered;
Flows the ruffled streamlet on,
Tranquil, deep and still;
Never gliding back again
To the watermill;
Truly speaks that proverb old,
With a meaning vast—
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Take the lesson to thyself,
True and loving heart;
Golden youth is fleeting by,
Summer hours depart;
Learn to make the most of life,
Lose no happy day,
Time will never bring thee back
Chances swept away!
Leave no tender word unsaid,
Love while love shall last;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Work while yet the daylight shines,
Man of strength and will!
Never does the streamlet glide
Useless by the mill;
Wait not till to-morrow's sun
Beams upon thy way,
All that thou canst call thine own
Lies in thy "to-day;"
Power and intellect and health
May not always last;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Oh, the wasted hours of life
That have drifted by!
Oh, the good *that might have been*,
Lost without a sigh!
Love that we might once have saved
By a single word,
Thoughts conceived but never penned,
Perishing unheard;
Take the proverb to thine heart,
Take and hold it fast,
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

POETRY ON TAP.

Elegiac Verse In any Quantity, and in Assortments to Suit Purchasers.

Brooklyn Eagle.

"Is the poet in?" asked a sorrowful looking party in deep mourning, poking his head into the managing editor's room.

"You are too general in your question," said the editor. "You see, we all make love to the muses when the fit is on us. A man who cannot sling verses is at once referred to our more or less esteemed contemporary over the way. The one requisite over there is that the man shall always adhere to a prosy style of writing. Oh, yes, we have a choice assortment of poets always on tap. What style of poet are you looking for; the gay and festive sort, the dramatic, or the romantic bard full of sentimentality and gush? There is the City editor now. He has a world of sentiment packed away behind his rugged ribs, and I've been looking for an opportunity to draw him out. Then, the police reporter and all the court reporters are full of a wild, weird longing to burst into song. As for myself," concluded the managing editor, running his fingers through his hair and leaning back in his chair, "I never write poetry except upon special occasions, and then I give the public a good liberal allopathic dose calculated to last them until the next great event is celebrated; so, you see, I am not open to retail contracts. But what style of poet are you after? Perhaps you would like to interview our political poet. His occupation, just at present is, to a certain degree gone, and he is open for contracts from a sonnet to an idyl."

"No," said the mournful party, pulling out a handkerchief with a deep black border. "I'm strictly on the funeral lay today. You see my uncle on my wife's side—"

"Your what?" asked the editor.

"My uncle by marriage, you understand," said the mournful party. "Well, the old skinflint—I should say the excellent old gentleman, has departed this life—'gone to join the angels'—gone to play first harp in some select little heavenly choir, and I wish to properly celebrate his timely taking off in a few chaste and elegant verses, you understand."

"Oh, you wish some of the G. W. C. sort of thing," said the editor. "The devil always writes the obituary poetry. Here Johnny!" called the editor, and a youth of some 17 Summers with poetic head of hair and a large, liberal face made his appearance. "Johnny, two sticks of death notice verse and make them clinchers. This gentleman will give you the *post mortem* portrait of the subject," and Johnny sat down in the outer office beside the mournful party.

"Male or female?" asked Johnny, picking up his pen.

"Male," said the mournful party.

"Spring of life, or seer and yellow?"

"About 70."

"Single?"

"Yes."

"Rich?"

"So, so."

"Leave you anything?"

"Still in doubt, Will unread."

"Pretty sure he did, though?"

"Yes, pretty sure."

"All right," said Johnny, running his pen over the paper. At last he said, "How is this," and read:

> Like the sturdy pine of the forest
> He weathered many a blast,
> But being alas! but mortal,
> He turned up his toes at last.

"That hardly hits the spot," said the mournful party. "Can't you sling in some of the truly upright business; a little of the reward of an honest and just life racket?"

"To be sure," said Johnny, and once more his pen flew over the paper. "This is about the lum tum," and he read:

> Our uncle dear has gone to rest,
> While we remain below;
> To be upright he found it best,
> That's why we loved him so.

"That'll do very well," said the mournful party. "Just slap her in to-day and to-morrow. What's the tax for your trouble?"

"Ten beers," said Johnny.

"Ten what?"

"Fifty cents."

"Oh," and the mournful party saw the poem for that amount, and stalked grandly forth, satisfied that his lamented uncle would now rest in his coffin on both sides of his head.

A Railroad Official Interviewed.

Not every one so cheerfully communicates his knowledge and opinions as recently did E. L. Lowerse, esq., cashier of the Cincinnati Southern Railway, that splendid outlet to the South from the Ohio. Our representative waited upon Mr. Lowerse, and in reply to certain questions the latter gentleman observed: "I was suffering from a very severe attack of rheumatism in my right foot; it was in a terrible condition; the pain was almost intolerable; our family physician waited on me without success; I sent for another well-known M. D., but even the twain could do nothing for me; I could not get down here to the office to attend to my duties; in fact I could not put my foot under me at all, and after nine weeks suffering I began to grow desperate. My friend, whom of course you know, for he is known by everybody, Mr. Stacey Hill, of the Mount Auburn Inclined Plaine Railroad Co., called to see me; he spoke very highly of St. Jacobs Oil, and recommended the remedy to me in glowing terms. I laughed at the idea of using a proprietary medicine, and yet the party recommending it, (Mr. Stacey Hill, remember,) being a man of sound judgment, set me to thinking the matter over. The next day, when the physicians called, I dismissed them, and said to myself that I would let nature take its course. That resolution lasted just a day. On the following morning I, in a fit of desperation, sent a servant for a bottle of St. Jacobs Oil. I applied that wonderful remedy, and it penetrated me so that I thought my foot was about to fall off, but it did not; in fact it did just the opposite. The next morning the pain had entirely left my foot, the swelling was reduced, and really the appearance was so different altogether from the day before, that it actually surprised me. I applied more of the St. Jacobs Oil, and that afternoon I walked down here to the office, and was able to attend to my duties, and get around as well as any one. Let me say for St. Jacobs Oil that it beats railroad time, and is always sure to win.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

The Will.

Indianapolis Herald.

Æsthetically speaking, the Stalwarts will have to try to live up to brass badges

GEN. HILN'S CASE.

How a New Hampshire Court Decided in a Similar Case.

Cincinnati Gazette.

As the people of the Unity Church, Chicago, have voted by a decided majority to dispense with the pastoral services of the Rev. G. C. Miln on the ground of his avowal of a disbelief in God and immortality, Mr. Miln will probably leave without an effort to maintain his position. It may possibly be affirmed on his part that as Unitarians repudiate a written creed, there is nothing incompatible between his disbelief and a continuance of his ministerial relations. Still the courts would probably decide that the Unitarianism affirmed in the organization of the church implied an acceptance of Christianity, and thus, even were Mr. Miln's supporters in the majority, would sustain the position of the minority. There is a case of this kind on record in the New Hampshire reports. The Rev. F. E. Abbott, then of Dover, and since noted as a Free Religionist leader, declared that he was no longer a Christian. A majority of his people sustained him, but the minority claimed that, as bequests had been made to the church for the support of liberal Christian worship, Mr. Abbott was ineligible. The case went before the Supreme Court of the State, and long opinions were announced. The majority of the bench held that liberal Christianity and Unitarianism must involve an acceptance of some positively Christian doctrines, while one of the Associate Justices dissented, claiming that Christianity might be used to describe an ethical system without the necessary accompaniment of dogmatic beliefs. Of course, the majority of the Court decided the case, and Mr. Abbot and all other non-Christians were enjoined from receiving support from the church's funds, or officiating in it. We do not know that Unity Church has any special funds of the kind described, but we believe that the Dover case is in its essential respects a precedent to that in Chicago.

SNORING IN A FOREIGN TONGUE.

The Sad Results of a Polander's Practice.

Bill Nye's Boomerang.

'It's funny how careless they get about joint powder after they get used to it," said Woodtick Williams, the other day to a *Boomerang* man.

"It's mighty harmless-looking stuff, and you wouldn't think if you didn't know what it was, that it would blow a man up any quicker than a ball of non-explosive Nebraska butter.

"I know when I was sinking on the Feverish Hornet and had a cabin up in Slippery Ellum Gulch, at first we was powerful careful about our joint powder and kept it in a hole in the side of the hill, but after we got to keeping it in the cabin, and in about two weeks we used to sit on the box when we played Black Mariar and Pedro.

"After this we found that this kind of groceries worked better if it was kept kind of warm, and we used to put the little cakes of joint powder under the mattress, so they'd be kind of warm in the morning to blast with.

"We had a Polander on the night shift of the Feverish Hornet that the boys called Neuralgia Phlaskowhiski. He was the worst man to swear nights and snore days that I ever saw. When he used to go down in the shaft and swear a few times in the dialect of his fatherland, the other men had to come to the surface for fresh air. He generally swore till he got excited and his jaw got cramped on an imported gob of profanity, and then he would quit for a while. We called his style of swear the Anglo-Kosciusko swear. It generally jarred the foot wall and shattered the vein matter so that we had to timber up a little after he got through.

"His snore was about as blood-curdling as his unique style of swear. He used to snore in his own native tongue. Of course, the force of habit is strongest on a man when he is asleep. That's why he never tried to swear in English.

"When he seemed to be getting the most comfort out of his slumbers and had his mouth open so as you could throw a Magnolia ham against his liver, and snored so as to get in all the double f's and q's and z's and Polish diphthongs and other funny business, it made the floor of the cabin creak, and the cook-stove would fall down and the clock used to stop, and stock in the Feverish Hornet would go down to 10 cents a share.

"Well, Neuralgia Phlaskowhiski, working on the night-shift as he did, had to do his heavy sleeping during the day, while the rest of us were to work in the shaft. The day-shift consisted of myself and a man named Marco Bozzaris Smith, and the night-shift was composed of a picked crew, consisting of Neuralgia Phlaskowhiski and a man from Zion that we called Anonymous, because we never knew what his name was.

"Anonymous slept in a tent, because he said he was a little nervous and fidgety like and could not sleep in a boiler factory. So he pitched his tent about a mile down the gulch, where the sound of Neuralgia's snores were partially deadened.

"About 2 o'clock P. M., one pleasant July day, there was a loud crash in Slippery Elm gulch that agitated the country for four miles around, and filled the air with fragments of bed-clothes and cooking utensils. We went down to the cabin, but it wasn't there.

"The concussion of Neuralgia Phlaskowhiski's snore had set off the giant powder concealed about his bed, and distributed the whole dog-gone ranch over the surrounding scene.

"We postponed the funeral for two weeks and asked the prospectors of the State to bring in such fragments of deceased as might be found. At the hour appointed, the mourners gathered around a baking powder can containing all that was mortal of Neuralgia.

"Death had worked a wondrous change in the expression of the features of the remains. Very few could recognize the deceased.

"Mr. Phlaskowhiski had always been cursed with a fear that he would be buried alive, and Marco Bozzaris Smith suggested that the remains should lie in state for a week or two, but the rest of us felt so positive about his death that the ceremonies were allowed to go on.

"This little episode seemed to us like a solemn warning, and after that we kept our joint powder under the mattress of a man who didn't snore in a foreign language.

"The good old Anglo-Saxon snore is good enough for the every-day hum-drum of life. When the language of this country isn't good enough to snore with in a mining camp, it's time to adjourn."

Piano Tuning.

Music.

"I have one of the best pianos in the world; it was made to order for me. I have had it 10 years, and it has only been tuned three times since, and it is in pretty fair tune now; try it," she said, as she opened the lid. "Now, how often ought a piano to be tuned?" "Well, madam, that depends on what kind of a piano it is, what sort of care is taken of it, and who uses it. An artist has his piano tuned every time he uses it; professional people every time it needs it; purchasers of first-class instruments three or four times a year, and people with sole-leather ears, never!"

This is Not a Dye.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

A correspondent as

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz.:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication, but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters not complying with this rule find their way at once to the waste basket.

2. Mathematical problems and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper in the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this Department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms or corporations doing a general business. The BLADE'S endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately, and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in a distant part of the country.

Correspondents whose inquiries are not answered within a reasonable time would do well to repeat them. If they still fail to receive an answer they are asked to believe that the questions remain unanswered for good and sufficient reasons.

We must request that subscribers will keep all communications for the business and editorial Departments of the BLADE entirely separate and distinct, always upon separate leaves. Questions for this department should never be written on the same leaf with letters containing subscriptions or orders for books. Letters intended for this department of the paper should be marked "Correspondents' Department."

O. A. M., Jerusalem, O.: Address the Toledo Reading Works, Toledo, O.

C. L., West Andover, O.: Write to the American Agriculturist, New York.

L. C., Newton, Kan.: Any prominent book seller will get the book for you.

L. F., Gould City, Kan.: The address of Sen Jones, of Nevada, is Washington, D. C.

J. H. W., Richland, Ia.: Mrs. Surratt was tried by a military court, and not before a jury.

A. C. P., Jackson, D. T.: Is Dakota Territory in the United States?

Yes.

G. R. T., Elmira, Mich.: In what year was the cold New Year?

January 1, 1805.

C. J. C., Lac qui Parle, Minn.: Are National Bank notes a legal tender for any class of debts?

No.

R. D. H., Pine Island, Minn.: "Cushing's Manual" is recognized authority on parliamentary rules. Almost any bookseller will procure it for you.

M. F., Lisbon, Ia.: When did Congress pass an act establishing the stars and stripes for the American flag?

June 14, 1877.

G. J., of Lenox, Taylor Co., Ia., states that the first Good Templar's Lodge was organized in New York in 1851, in 1868 in England, in 1869 in Scotland, and in 1870 in Ireland.

C. E. W., Corning, Ia.: Does the General Government or the District of Columbia pay the costs in the District Courts?

The General Government.

T. J., Altoona, Pa.: Please inform me what Wilkes Booth was shot with, revolver or musket?

He was shot with a carbine.

J. T. Y., Oro, Arizona.: How many pounds of lime make a bushel?

It is decided by the statutes of the different States. There is no generally recognized standard.

L. A. W., Waterloo, O.: The Methodist Church has a larger following in the United States than the Baptist. The number of Roman Catholics in the United States is set down at about 8,000,000.

T. W. C., Monroe, Ia.: Why was he so kind as to decide a question for me? If it was, Who is the Grand Duke Alexis who visited the United States several years ago?

The second son of the late Czar of Russia.

Miss E. C., Lamar, Mo.: Has the President no tempore of the United States Senate a right to the casting vote besides his Senatorial vote?

No.

A. W. F., Montezuma, Ia.: Please inform me where I can get a work on tariff and free trade.

Address the Secretary of the Free Trade League, New York City.

C. C. C., Eureka, Kan.: 1. Is it required to stamp bank checks in any part of the United States. 2. If in any part of the United States, please state what parts.

1. Yes. 2. In all parts.

W. H. H. W., Floodwood, O.: Can you inform me if there is a paper published in the Polish language, in Chicago, Ill.?

The Gazeta Polska Katolikx, John Barzynski, editor, is an old established Polish paper published in Chicago.

W. F., Cambridge, O.: 1. What is the state of the inebriate asylums located? 2. Are they useful institutions?

1. There is one at Binghampton, N. Y., and we think one in Washington. 2. Yes, very useful.

A. M. R., Grand View, Kan.: 1. What is the best paper for a Kansas wool grower? 2. If Queen Victoria was a private lady what would her full name be?

1. The "Wool Grower," published at Boston Mass. 2. Victoria Alexandrina Guelph.

W. L. G., Rock Spring, Mo.: Vallandigham is pronounced with the accent on the second syllable. Speedpsdyke is the funny man of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Eagle. The BLADE gives no information regarding the business standing of private individuals or firms.

Reader, St. Charles, Mich.: 1. Of what is the Greenback party composed? 2. Will they ever succeed if ever get in power?

1. The party was composed of disappointed office seekers and their deluded followers. There is not a corporal's guard of the party left. 2. Never.

W. L. H., Bondsville, Kan.: Has the government established any law in regard to a person or persons on postal card exposed to view, calling them liars and cheats swindlers, etc.? If there is any law, is there a penalty attached?

There is a law of the Government which imposes a heavy penalty for such action.

Novice, Lost Creek, Tenn.: I have a vast quantity of limestone on my land, but don't know how to convert them into lime. Please tell me in correspondents column how to burn it, how much it takes to the quality of lime to be used in whitewashing dwellings, &c.

The only way we know of is to burn it in a kiln, constructed for the purpose.

H. E. M., Cairo, W. Va.: Please inform a constant reader whether there is any statute law in the District of Columbia which makes insanity an excuse for crime?

The plea of insanity on the part of the defense will hold good anywhere in the United States; but as all accused persons are held to be innocent until proven guilty, so are all held to be sane until proven insane.

C. N. O., Homer, Ill.: When was the Tichborne trial held in London, England? How many days did the trial last?

The trial commenced May 11, 1871, and continued 188 days. There were two adjournments and the case terminated March 6, 1872. The claimant to the estate, Arthur Orton, was convicted of perjury and was sentenced to 14 years penal servitude.

G. W. C., Long Branch, N. Y.:

1. Will the failure of the Union Generale of Paris be likely to affect financial affairs in this country. 2. Are the recent numerous failures the results of general business troubles, or the result of speculation or individual causes? 3. Will you please publish the poem, "The Battle of Hohenlinden?"

1. No. 2. Speculation and local causes. 3. As a copy can be found in nearly every household, please excuse us.

Inquirer, Sugar Creek, Ia.: Will you please give the names of the Associate Justices of the United States?

Horace Russell, Massachusetts; Samuel F. Miller, Iowa; Stephen J. Field, California; William Strong, Pennsylvania; L. P. Bradley, New Jersey; James Harlan, Kentucky; Stanley Matthews, Ohio, and William B. Woods of Georgia. There is one vacancy, occasioned by the resignation of Justice Hunt, of New York.

C. J. C., Pontiac, Ill.: Can you give me the authorship of the quotation "Of two evils choose the least?"

The language from which the quotation is taken is found in the writings of Thomas a' Kempis, the German author, who died in 1471. In his works Book III., Chapter 12, occurs the words, "Of two evils the less is always to be chosen." Prior in imitation of Horace, says: "Of two evils I have chose the least."

J. M. S., Waldron, Ark.:

1. Is Mr. Lowe a married man? If so where is his wife? 2. Where can I get a large portrait of C. A. Arthur and R. B. Hayes? 3. What is the cost and how long were they in the construction of the St. Louis bridge? Why is there no votes cast in the Distric. of Columbia for President?

1. Yes—in Toledo. 2. Write to Taylor & Smith, 113 South Fourth street, Philadelphia. 3. About $4,600,000. It was four years in construction. 4. The District of Columbia is not a State and consequently has no vote for Presidential electors.

A. W. E., Upper Sandusky, O.:

Your answer to R. G. A., Fairview, O., does not cover the ground. Lincoln did in the 100 days' notice of his Emancipation proclamation state that if within 100 days the Rebels laid down their arms and returned to their homes, they should be safe in all their rights, including slavery. He gave 100 days, not 60. This can be found in his proclamation giving notice of the emancipation proclamation. Yours does not answer R. G. A.'s question. An assertion of this will satisfy him.

We have an idea that our answer "covered the ground," but if you think yours will prove more satisfactory you shall be gratified by seeing it in print.

A. L. B., Red Oak, Ia.:

I lately heard a lady, in speaking of the Cary sisters, say, she was one of the adopted daughters of Horace Greeley. Was this lady correct? At what age did they die?

Alice and Phoebe Cary, sisters, were born near Cincinnati, the former in 1823, the latter in 1824. In 1850 they removed to New York and engaged in literary labors. We never heard that Horace Greeley adopted them. Alice died at New York, February 12, 1871, and her sister on the first of July following, at Newport, R. I.

D. S. S., New Castle, O.:

1. Suppose a man owns 200 acres of land, is married, out of debt, and without heirs. He died and leaves a widow 60 years or over, and no will. Can his brothers come in for any part of his property? 2. If so, to what part? If not, what is done with the property? 3. Does the age of the widow make any difference in settling up the estate?

1. Yes. 2. All excepting the widow's right of dower. This is in Ohio all articles of personal property owned by her at marriage or acquired subsequently, and they cannot be sold to pay debts of the estate. She is entitled to the use of one-third of all the real estate left by her husband during her life. 3. No.

H. M. M., North Duxbury, Vt.:

In what country and where situated is the City of Duluth? Please give a short account of its history, its population, etc.

In St. Louis County, Minnesota, near the southwest extremity of Lake Superior. It owes its importance to its being the present eastern terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad. It was first settled in 1856 and 1857, but the settlement was virtually abandoned until 1869, when the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad was commenced. In 1873 the population was about 4,000. The completion of a branch of the Northern Pacific to Superior City, Wis., will have a tendency to divert a large portion of Duluth's trade to the latter place.

A. J. H., Harrisonville, O.:

1. Where does the common house fly come from, and are they small when young? 2. What is Candlemas Day? 3. What is the meaning of "O. N. T." on Clark's spool threads, and of the "6. D." and "3. D." on fine sewing gun caps?

1. The common house fly is supposed to be the progeny of a few that lived through the Winter in some protected place. 2. It is the Roman Catholic festival of the purification of the Virgin Mary, February 2, so called because the tapers and candles used in the Church throughout the year are consecrated on this day. It is a festival of very great antiquity. 3. They are trade marks.

B. L. T., Inland, O.:

1. Why is the term Keystone applied to the State of Pennsylvania, Buckeye to Ohio, Hoosier to Indiana? 2. Why is the northern boundary line of Delaware a curved line? 3. Give a history of the Indian arrow of which we find so many in tilling the soil?

1. In the allegorical arch of the 13 original States Pennsylvania was represented as the center, and was called therefore the "keystone" of the arch, and afterwards the "Keystone State." The "buckeye" was from the fruit of the horse chestnut that was found in great quantities in Ohio, and called "buckeye" by the early settlers. The word "hoosier" is freely translated as "a dweller in the woods." 2. The boundary was fixed by a commission from the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania. 3. There is no particular history attached. Their presence would indicate that the places where they were found were formerly Indian settlements.

C. P. R., Fowler, Benton Co., Ind.:

1. What is the signification of "ember days," found in our calendars? Please give origin, etc., etc. 2. Please give a description of the Elevated Railroad in New York—how constructed.

1. Ember days are certain days set apart by the church, in each of the four seasons for fasting, praying, and the conferring of holy orders. They are the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday immediately following the first Sunday in Lent, the feast of the Pentecost, the 14th of September and the 13th of December. The weeks in which these fasts occur are called ember weeks.

2. The elevated roads are what their name implies, roads elevated to about the level of the second stories of the buildings in the City, over which run cars for the transportation of passengers. The roads are built on iron pillars. There are several such extending from the lower end of New York City through its entire length, and the travel over them is simply enormous.

L. A. C., Leetonia, O.:

1. How can I get information concerning the grain lands of Dakota? 2. Can any one go West and take up a claim, and what are the necessary steps to procure one?

1. Nearly the whole eastern portion of Dakota is fertile and grain producing, the prevailing soil being a dark, calcareous, sandy loam, with an intermixture of clay, and is remarkably fertile. The corn producing belt which runs through Ohio, Indiana and Illinois extends northwest through Iowa, up the valley of the Missouri through Dakota. The bottom lands on this great river and its tributaries are singularly rich and of uniform soil, and furnish extensive and luxuriant meadows. All the grain, fruits and vegetables usually grown in the Middle States are grown in Dakota. Indian corn yields 50 bushels to the acre, wheat 30 to 50, oats 40 to 75. Further information could be obtained from the Land Commissioner at Yankton, D. T. 2. Land can be purchased at Government prices by application at the land offices at either Springfield, Fargo, Bismarck, Sioux Falls, Yankton or Deadwood.

W. E. S., Windsor, Shelby Co., Ill.:

1. Please mention the members of Garfield's Cabinet. 2. Of Arthur's. 3. What political parties have arose since and what were in existence at the adoption of the Constitution? 4. How many Representatives and Senators from Illinois?

1. James G. Blaine, Secretary of State; William Windom, Secretary of the Treasury; Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War; William H. Hunt, Secretary of the Navy; Samuel J. Kirkwood, Secretary of the Interior; Wayne McVeagh, Attorney General; T. L. James, Postmaster General. 2. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State; Charles J. Folger, Secretary of the Treasury; Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War; William H. Hunt, Secretary of the Navy; Samuel J. Kirkwood, Secretary of the Interior; Benjamin H. Brewster, Attorney General; Timothy O. Howe, Postmaster General. 3. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution the Federals and Republicans were the two parties, the Republicans corresponding with the Democrats of to-day. Since then there have been the Whig, Democratic Free Soil, Know Nothing and Republican. 4. Two Senators and 19 Representatives.

J. E. D., Bluffton, O.:

Please give the fictitious names of the States in the Union, as Ohio "Buckeye State."

Maine, Pine Tree State; New Hampshire, Granite State; Vermont, Green Mountain State; Massachusetts, Bay State; Rhode Island, Little Rhody; Connecticut, Nutmeg State; New York, Empire State; Pennsylvania, Keystone State; Delaware, Blue Hen or Diamond State; Virginia, Old Dominion; North Carolina, Old North or Turpentine State; South Carolina, Palmetto State; Florida, Pascua Florida, so-called in Spanish because discovered on Easter Sunday; Mississippi, Bayou State; Louisiana, Creole State; Texas, Lone Star State; Ohio, Buckeye State; Indiana, Hoosier State; Illinois, Sucker State; Kentucky, Dark and Bloody Ground; Tennessee, Big Bend State; Missouri, Muddy Water State; Arkansas, Big Bear State; Michigan, Wolverine State; Wisconsin, Badger State; Iowa, Hawkeye State; Minnesota, Gopher State; California, Golden State; Nebraska, Sage Hen State. Of other States New Jersey was named from the Island of Jersey, Maryland in honor of Queen Henrietta Maria of England, Georgia in honor of George II., Alabama from its principal river, Oregon from an Indian word meaning River of the West, Colorado from its largest river; Kansas means "smoky water" and Nevada, "white with snow."

J. A. S., Medora, Ill.:

Please give a short account of how Jenner discovered that vaccination would prevent small pox. Will say in reply to a question of A. J. B., of Graysville, Pa., that any odd number of odd numbers is an odd number; therefore 33 bags could not be filled in five days by killing an odd number each day.

Edward Jenner, an English physician, born in 1749 and died 1823, had his attention directed early in life to the small pox by hearing a young country woman who had come to his master's surgery for advice, say she could not take the disease because she had already had the cow pox. Upon inquiry he found that in Gloucestershire, persons engaged in milking cows frequently had the cow pox, a mild disorder of the eruptive kind appearing on the udder of the animal, and communicated in a similar manner to their hands, that it had never proved fatal when thus communicated, and that the belief was common among the agricultural classes that whoever had taken the disease was secure from the infection of the small pox. He immediately instituted a thorough examination, and was soon led to conjecture that the cow pox as the milder disease, might advantageously supersede the inoculated small pox, which had been introduced some 50 years before. By a long course of experiments he satisfied himself that vaccination with the virus from the cow pox was a preventive of the small pox, and he next discovered that the former disease could be communicated from one human being to another without having recourse to the original vaccine matter. He met with a determined, bitter and virulent opposition from the leading surgeons of the time, but finally triumphed, and a statue was placed in Trafalgar Square, London, to his memory in 1858.

C. F. H., Middletown, Ill.:

1. What is the inclination of the earth's axis on the ecliptic? 2. Are cubeb berries used for medical purposes? Where are they raised? 3. Will salt around fruit trees be beneficial in bearing? 4. From what is macaroni obtained?

1. The ecliptic and the celestial equator cut each other at an angle of 23½ degrees. The axis of the earth is therefore not perpendicular to that orbit, but is inclined 23½ degrees to that perpendicular. 2. Yes. The berries are from a plant growing wild in Java, Penang and other parts of the East Indies. 3. It depends upon the tree, the soil, and the amount used.

4. It is a peculiar paste or dough made principally by the Italians, who are adepts in its preparation. It is made from wheat flour, and that grown in the southern countries of Europe is peculiarly adapted to its manufacture on account of the large proportion of gluten contained. The preparation is something as follows: The wheat after being washed in the mountain streams is forced from its husks, and ground on water mills, when hot water is added until it is the consistency of stiff dough. Five different qualities are obtained by an equal number of sieves, the last giving the finest and most delicate made. After a thorough kneadieg the dough is reduced to cylinders or ribbons in an iron vessel perforated with holes or slits. This vessel is filled with paste, and forced through the holes or slits by a powerful pressure. To produce a hollow cylinder, a wire is suspended from above through the round hole in the vessel. During the process it is partially baked by a fire under the vessel. After being hung up for a few days to dry the pieces are ready for use. The larger cylinders are called *maccheroni*, the smaller *vermicelli* (little worms) and the very smallest *fedilini*.

A. R. J., Fort Bascom, N. M.:

Will you please give a description of the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky?

It is situated near Green River, about 75 miles from Louisville. Its mouth is reached by passing down a wild, rocky ravine, through a dense forest; it is an irregular, funnel-shaped opening, from 50 to 100 feet in diameter at the top, with steep walls about 50 feet high. The cave extends about nine miles, and it is said that to visit the portions already traversed requires from 150 to 200 miles travel. This vast interior contains a succession of marvelous avenues, chambers, domes, abysses, grottoes, lakes, rivers, cataracts, etc., which for size and wonderful appearance are unsurpassed. Echo River is about three-fourths of a mile long, 200 feet wide at some points, and from 10 to 30 feet deep; its course is beneath an arched ceiling of smooth rock about 15 feet high. This river has invisible communication with Green River the depth of water and the direction of the current in the former being regulated by the stage of water in the latter. The River Styx, 450 feet long, 15 to 20 wide, and from 30 to 40 deep, is spanned by an interesting natural bridge about 30 feet above it. Lake Lethe is about 450 feet long and from 10 to 40 wide, and varies in depth from 3 to 30 feet; it lies beneath a ceiling about 90 feet above its surface. Its waters sometimes rise to a hight of 60 feet, in consequence of freshets in Green River. The Dead Sea is a gloomy body of water somewhat smaller than the preceding. Two remarkable specimens of animal life are found in the cave, in the form of an eyeless fish and an eyeless crawfish, which are nearly white in color. Another species of fish has been found with eyes, but totally blind. There are also lizards, frogs, crickets, rats, bats and ordinary fish, washed in from Green River. The atmosphere of the cave is pure and healthful; the temperature, which averages 59 degrees, is about the same in Winter and Summer. There are other caves in the vicinity, from one to three miles in length.

Inquisitive, Ingleside, Pa.:

1. Will you please give a biographical sketch of Anthony Wayne? 2. What is meant by cutting the Gordian knot? 3. What is an expost-facto law? Bill of Attainder? 4. What are letters of marque and reprisal? 5. Who was the author of the saying "All the fools are not dead yet?" 6. Who was Marathon and Salamis? 7. What is Promethean fire? What is the Queen of Belgium's name? 8. Can you read character from writing? If so, what do you think of me? 9. How is my handwriting? 10. Who is the present Minister to England?

1. Gen. Anthony Wayne, "Mad Anthony," as he was sometimes called, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1745. His grandfather commanded a squadron of dragoons under King William at the Battle of the Boyne, and came to this country in 1722. His father, Isaac, was an officer in the Indian wars of this country, and was also a member of the Provincial Legislature. Anthony was educated at the Philadelphia Academy. On the breaking out of the Revolutionary war he raised a regiment and was in many severe battles. He was made a Brigadier General in 1777, was at the battle of Germantown, where he was wounded, and distinguished himself at Monmouth. In 1779 he led the night attack on Stony Point, which was captured with its entire garrison and stores. He joined Lafayette in the Virginia campaign of 1781, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. Being ordered to Georgia in 1792, to subdue the hostile Indians, he defeated Col. Brown on the 20th of May, and a month later the celebrated chieftain Guristersigo, who was killed. He served in the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1784-5, and was in the Convention which ratified the United States Constitution. After the defeats of Gens. St. Clair and Harmar, by the Indians in Ohio, Gen. Wayne took command, and in 1794 gained a complete victory at the battle of the Fallen Timbers, near the Maumee Rapids. He died at Presque Isle, now Erie, Pa., December 15, 1796. Gen. Wayne was "discreet and cautious, faithful in expeditions, quick in decision, and prompt in execution." He and Gen. Greene rank next to Washington in the history of the War of the Revolution. 2. The term comes from Gordius, a legendary king of Persia, who consecrated the yoke of his team to Zeus Basileus, and an oracle declared that whoever should untie the artfully-made knot should become the ruler of Asia. Alexander the Great, on his march to Persia, not being able to untie it, is reported to have cut it asunder with his sword. 3. A law which operates by after-enactment. The phrase is applied to any law, civil or criminal, which is enacted with a retrospective effect. They are, however, held to be contrary to the fundamental principles of free government, and the Constitution of the United States prohibits their passage by the States. A bill of attainder in English law was a bill brought into Parliament for attainting persons condemned for high treason. The bill of attainder is also prohibited by the Constitution of the United States. 4. Letters granted by the government of any nation engaged in war, to a private armed vessel, authorizing it to make captures and reprisals from the enemy. 5. Not known. It might have been old King Canute, who commanded the sea to roll back when the tide was coming in, and with his retinue narrowly escaped drowning. 6. Marathon is a town in Greece, about 18 miles from Athens, famous as being the scene of the defeat of the Persian army, 110,000 strong, by the Grecian army, under Miltiades. The Persians were surprised and driven from the field to their ships with great slaughter. Salamis, an island of Greece, is celebrated as being the birthplace of Solon and Euripides, but mostly for the great naval victory gained by the Greeks, led by Themistocles over the fleet of Xerxes 480 years B. C. 7. Prometheus in mythology was a brother of Atlas, and is said to have stolen fire from heaven in a tube, when Jupiter withheld it from mortals. 8. Louise, daughter of Louis Phillipe, of France. 8. Not an expert. Except from the signature to your communication, should have thought that the given name might have been Samuel, or Thomas, or Ebenezer instead of Susan. 9. Very fair. 10. James Russell Lowell.

Information Wanted.

S. L. Shreve, Murray, Iowa, wishes the address of Amos Kerr.

Mrs. Alex Campbell, of Astoria, Or., would be pleased to hear of Solomon C. Stambaugh.

E. W. Davison, Philo, Ill., wants the address of W. F. Davison; last heard of in Ripley, Brown County, Ohio.

Mary A. Jones, of Coultersville, Randolph Co., Ill., wants the name and address of any member of Co. E, 15th Ill. Cav.

Mary Ham, St. Paul, Howard Co., Neb., wants the address of Wm. and Squire Landreth, last heard of in Pittsfield, O.

W. B. Premer, Martinsville, Harrison Co., Mo., would like the address of Dr. C. M. Babcock, formerly of Wataga, Knox Co., Ill.

J. H. Lawrence, of Schuyler, Colfax Co., Neb., would like the address of Wm. Westgate, formerly a printer at La Crosse, Wis.

Mrs. David Seguin, of Ft. Madison, Ia., would like the address of Dr. Irwin, a practicing physician in Memphis, Tenn., in July, 1865.

Edwin H. Beebe, Beebetown, Harrison Co., Ia., wants the address of some members of Co. I, 111th Ind. Inft., who were in the Battle of the Wilderness.

Reuben Gilmore, of Toledo, Louis Co., W. T., inquires for information as to the whereabouts of David H. Gilmore, who was last heard of at Fairbury, Neb.

A. S. Dixon, Murray, Clark County, Ia., would be pleased for information of 1st Lt. Henry A. Clark, Co. G, 154th Ill. Inft., or any member of said company.

Orville Ball, of Morley, Mich., wishes to know the whereabouts, if living, of Lt. M. J. Boland, Lt. J. R. Berry, Geo. W. Casey or H. A. West, Co. D, 10th Ohio Cavalry.

Wm. Wiel, Carbondale, Osage Co., Kan., would like to know the whereabouts of Thomas Wardrop, a native of Bothwell, Scotland; last heard of in Chicago in 1866.

I. N. Swope, of Mapleton Depot, Pa., would like to obtain information of Henry S. Taylor, a coachmaker, from Martinsburg, Pa., who went to Louisiana just before the war.

The address of Capt. H. P. Merrill of Co. H, 4th Kentucky Mounted Infantry or Lieutenants of the same, or of the Surgeon of the Regiment is wanted by J. W. Stowell, Mondamin, Ia.

Samuel A. Nilson, New Somerset, Jefferson County, Ohio, wants to correspond with some members of Co. G, 1st Battalion, 13th U. S. Inft., who were soldiers at Camp Cook, M. T., in 1867.

Daniel Black, of Minntrista, Ia., would like the address of Capt. Matthias Thoney, Co. C, 2d Regt. Minnesota Veteran Vol. Inft., and also those of Aaron Oliver and Louis Rice, of the same company.

F. G. Mills, New Granada, Fulton Co., Pa., wants the address of A. P. Frick, 1st Asst. Surgeon 101st Pa. Vols., who had charge of Camp Measles Hospital in 1861, and was transferred to the 103d Pa. Vols.

B. M. Ellis, of Empire City, Cherokee County, Kansas, would like to know the address of Dr. Straton, the Regimental Surgeon of the 11th Illinois Cavalry Vols.; also of Capt. Gray, of Co. M of the same regiment.

Hannah M. Acheson, South Oil City, Venango Co., Pa., would like the address of Capt. E. A. Andrews, Co. C, 7th Wis. Infy., Wm. Nodeff, private, or that of any soldier of the company who was acquainted with Wm. J. R. Acheson of the same Company.

Delayed Subscriptions.

It sometimes happens that persons order the BLADE mailed to them and fail to receive after a reasonable time has elapsed. Why this is will readily be seen from the following list of persons sending money for the BLADE and failing either to sign their names or give their address:

Will Philo Hayes, of Miles City, give his full postoffice address, and the matter in reference to check No. 785 will be looked up.

Letter containing $1.25, signed Andrew Walther, no postoffice, County or State.

If A. Phillips will give his full postoffice address the matter of extension of time from January 3, 1882, will be attended to.

If P. H. McClusky, of Doniphan County, Kan., will give his full address, his complaint will be rectified.

If Mrs. E. LeBallister, of Stanwood, will give her full address, the proper credit will be given on her subscription.

Letter containing 30c, signed George M. Meyers, no order, postoffice, County or State.

Letter containing 25c, dated at Lake City, Ks., look called "Me" wanted, no name signed to letter.

Letter from Oxford, Ind., signed A. R. Gwin, orders the BLADE for Nelson Cox, but contained no money.

If Mrs. I. Shoemaker, box 19, will give her full address we will do all we can to help the matter.

Letter dated at Nilwood, Ill., orders BLADE to E. L. Owen and book to Addie Owen, contains no money.

If Jared R. Johnson will give his full postoffice address the back numbers will be sent.

Letter containing $1.25, dated at Brighton, no County or State, to pay for BLADE for A. Milhrem, signed by J. E. Lytle.

Letter containing $2.10, dated at Walnut Creek, no County or State, to pay for BLADE to M. J. Pough and W. C. Pratt, signed by E. A. Garrick, P. M.

Letter containing 30c, for sample copies sent by Rev. N. Gilbert, no postoffice, County or State.

Letter containing 30c, signed by Andrew Cabie, no postoffice, County or State.

If Harry L. Lanphear will give his full postoffice address the error will be corrected.

Letter containing $1.25, signed P. Benjamin, no postoffice, County or State.

Letter containing $1.25, dated at Grantsville, no County or State, signed W. H. Howe.

Letter containing $1, to pay for BLADE to Mary J. Kelver, signed Robert Shriver, no postoffice, County or State.

If James H. Haskins, Montrose, will give his full postoffice address, the change will be made.

Letter containing $1.25, signed "O. K.," no Postoffice, County or State.

STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS.

The Kentucky Murder Case—Ellis Said to Have Perjured Himself.

A Detective's Theory—He Believes Neil and Craft to be Innocent.

Special to Cincinnati Enquirer.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 13.—There is a new and startling development in the Catlettsburg murder cases. It concerns Ellis. Confined in the same cell with him was one John Adkins, a carpenter, sent to jail for carrying concealed weapons. It seems that Ellis, while he avoided talking to the other prisoners in the room, which is known as the debtor-room, made a sort of confidant of Adkins. He said to this man that he could not stand this thing much longer in regard to the other men down stairs, alluding to Neal and Craft; that his conscience hurt him, and he would tell all in a few days. Adkins reports that Ellis further said that there were others in it, meaning the murder; that he had made a wrong statement, and that he would have to correct it.

Owing to the jail rules it was too late to see Ellis to verify the above statement, as Adkins was himself only released to-night; but it is already the talk of the town, and the feeling as to the innocence of Craft and Neal, which has been growing on account of the appearance and bearing of the men, has been strengthened by this report.

DETECTIVE BURNETT'S STARTLING THEORY.

In connection with the above dispatch the following will be found of interest. It is from a recent interview with Alf Burnett, a cool and level-headed detective of Charleston, W. Va. Being asked his opinion of the Ashland tragedy, Mr. Burnett said:

"Now, if you want to listen I'll tell you just what I think of it. I was down there after the crime. I went out of pure curiosity. I was not and am not interested or engaged, but following up clews is my business, and I followed one up there which leads me to believe that Ellis' confession is a barefaced lie; that Craft and Neal are are innocent and that three negros are the real outragers. You must know that Ellis is a lunatic—one of those cranks who get an idea into their heads and firmly believe that certain things are just so. He said one evening to Mr. Powell that he had some evidence as to who did the deed, but not enough to make a case. A reward had been offered; the people were clamoring for the conviction of some one. You never saw anything like it; workshops and everything else stopped, and men were almost wild. A United States Marshal named Heflin heard of the remark made by Ellis, and he with a partner worked up that story alleged to be Ellis' confession, and then got him in a room, and pointing a revolver at him, said he would kill him if he did not confess. The result was that Ellis supplied the names of two men as innocent as you or I.

"Since that time Ellis' wife has repeatedly asked him to tell the truth, which he wildly asserts he has done. He is a despondent looking person, and one would readily say that he was insane. In his confession he says that he dressed before going to the door to see Craft and Neal. Why did he dress first? His wife says he did not leave the house that night. He says that Craft made him go at the mouth of a revolver, and said they were going to rape the Thomas and Gibbons girls, as they had said they would do it in the Fall. I contend that no one knew the girls were together that night except Mrs. Thomas and a colored family named Horten, who kept a boarding-house for railroad laborers. I have studied the alleged confession closely, and I can see several places where it doesn't hold water. Now, right here, I want to say one word about the trial, and then for my theory. Neil and Craft, who are poor, were not allowed proper defense. They were not allowed to testify for each other or themselves. The trial was a court-martial, in which the Judge overruled every motion for the defense. They were convicted on the slightest circumstantial evidence, and Ellis was purposely kept out, so that the defense could not impeach his testimony."

"These are strong statements, Mr. Burnett."

"I know it, but I'm sure I know what I'm about. Now for my theory, as there is no use in any referring to the horrors of the outrage, the killing of the girls and the boy, the fire, the excitement and arrest—all that was carefully reported by the press of the country.

"About 7 o'clock on the night of the 23d, a young lady of Ashland, whom I can produce at any time, was going to her home; she met three rowdy negros, and stepped into the street to allow them to pass. One of them had an oil can, and she overheard the following: 'Goin' down to Gibbons' house to steal a turkey to-day. Got one Thanksgivin' and three since.' Mrs. Gibbons says that she had three turkeys stolen.

"In the ruins was found an oil-can, the pout and top melted off, but the bottom adhering and with no leak in it. Ellis said that Craft compelled him to get Mrs. Gibbons' oil-can from the cupboard and pour oil on the bodies so that they would burn fast. Mrs. G. did not keep her oil-can in the cupboard, and there was not a pint of oil in the house. The one that was found was larger than the one owned by Mrs. G., and was brought to the house by the outragers. The evening of the 23d an oil-can was stolen from the barber-shop of Willis Hoggerty, a colored barber, and whose place was frequented by colored railroad hands.

"The Gibbons girl came for the Thomas girl at a late hour, Mrs. Gibbons having suddenly started for Ironton. No one outside of Mrs. T., except a colored family named Horten, who kept a boarding-house, knew that the Thomas girl was going to stay all night at Gibbons'. There were two Horten girls, and they were engaged to two railroad laborers. The morning after the tragedy these two men were missing; they were known to have called on the girls the night before; Willis the barber, who was arrested, as he claimed to know something, saw them in Catlettsburg the morning after they left on the train going up the Big Sandy. The Horten girls said the morning after, that the two men had been gone three days. Certain it is they have never been back, and they left behind them part of their salary. I am of the opinion that they were two of the three the lady met on the street, and also that they were two of the outragers.

"Capt. Sentz, of Charleston, formerly Sheriff of Kanawaha County, married Mrs. Gibbons' sister, and he left for Ashland Saturday evening. He arrived in Huntington early Sunday morning, and found he could not go any further. As he left the depot to go to the hotel he met Bill Overly (a negro, who formerly lived in Charleston) coming up the Ashland road. He was wet and tired, and said he was going home. Sentz talked with him about the Ashland horror, and noticed that Bill was nervous and knew more than he cared to give away. The third morning after the horror I was informed by a Charleston lady that Bill was home, and that his mother had said that Bill knew all about the trouble. A colored agent of mine was sent to interview the old lady, and when she was asked about the Ashland trouble, she said: 'Jack, there's a heap sight too much been said now, and I'm afraid Bill will be arrested; he is now at Campbell's Creek.'

"The statement that he was at the Creek was a lie. I telegraphed and found that he had never been there. For 10 days the Charleston police and my men hunted for that fellow, and at last I ran him down in a low place in the outskirts of Charleston, where he had hid for several days. He denied knowing Sentz, or having been in Ashland or Huntington, or saying anything about the crime, and contradicted himself several times. Now, I think Bill is the third party."

Above are the main points of Captain Burnett's story, which he told, carefully going into the smallest details. He censures Judge Brown severely, and believes that Neal and Craft are innocent. Burnett has a good reputation as a reliable officer and not as a wild guesser.

CATLETTSBURG, Ky., Feb. 15.—If there is to be a newspaper reopening of the Ashland murder trials, justice to the people of Boyd County demands an answer to the sensational interview of Detective W. W. Burnett in the Enquirer of the 14th. Burnett, a detective from Charleston, West Virginia, came to Ashland the day after the tragedy, seeking employment from the Citizens' Committee, but for good reasons his services were not accepted. He is well known in Catlettsburg, but was not here during the trial; in fact, we have not seen him in this town since his escape, several years ago, from our Sheriff, who wanted him to settle a gambling fine. These facts, and jealousy of United States Marshal Heflin, furnish the probable motive for his false statements. No threats or promises were made to Ellis. His confession was made in the presence of A. C. Campbell and John M. Russell, members of the Citizens' Committee. Heflin's conduct throughout the whole trial is above suspicion. He had no partner as Burnett asserts, but worked by himself and achieved a national reputation that has excited the jealousy of such men as Burnett, Norris and others. He is not a professional detective, but is one of the best officers to be found in Kentucky or any other State. The trials were perfectly fair and impartial in every respect. Nearly all the jurors were from the country and were not affected by public sentiment. The prisoners were allowed every advantage which the law could give them; they were ably defended by attorneys who labored zealously in their behalf. All of the turkey, oil can and negro stories referred to by this unreliable detective were thoroughly investigated and exploded. The statements against Judge Brown are slanders. His conduct and ability displayed throughout the whole trial have secured for him the praise of every good citizen who watched the proceedings. A universal feeling of indignation prevails against Burnett.

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SKIN DISEASES.

F. Drake, Esq., Cleveland, O., suffered beyond all description from a skin disease which appeared on his hands, head and face, and nearly destroyed his eyes. The most careful doctoring failed to help him, and after all had failed he used Dr. Fraser's Magic Ointment and was cured by a few application. The first and only positive cure for skin diseases ever discovered.

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For

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Pubs

D. R. LOCKE, Editor.
JOHN McELROY, Associate Editor.

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Circulation this Week, 83,000

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLADE.

We request every friend of the BLADE to send us the names and address of at least 10 people who do not take the great Weekly. We want them within three weeks, and the more we get the better we shall like it.

A postal card will do. The BLADE appears in a complete new dress this week, and it will be the best, as it is now the largest and cheapest, Weekly published.

Within a few weeks we shall commence the new story "Throne and Scaffold," by ERNEST WARREN, the strongest novel of old English days ever written.

Send us the names of your friends. We want them all and will do them good.

OUR NEW ATTRACTIONS.

The first of the attractions of Col. J RALSTON SKINNER on "the Great Pyramid," is given in this issue. These will be of surprising interest to all who care for this grandest of the monuments of antiquity. Col. SKINNER is magnificently equipt for his task with a lifetime of research, and a thoro knowledge of all the literature bearing upon the subject. He is unlike most writers upon this fascinating subject, in not having any pet theory to subserve or warp the facts to suit.

This is a refreshing quality and adds vastly to the value of the articles.

The first of the REDPATH Letters from Ireland is also given in this number. The letters are bound to produce a most marked sensation. Mr. REDPATH is a veteran newspaper man, and one who has the confidence and admiration of millions of American readers. These letters are the product of his own experience; they relate things which he has witnessed and been a part of, and he bears a testimony in them that must convince every one.

The brilliantly fascinating serial "THRONE AND SCAFFOLD," by the distinguished English novelist, ERNEST WARREN, will be begun in a week or two. Its commencement is delayed in order to allow our new subscribers to begin with the first of the story, and save something of the great demand for back numbers which will otherwise occur.

OUR NEW DRESS.

At last we are again able to present the BLADE in a costume that befits it. The new dress in which this issue appears is as neat and tasteful as the garb of the greatest family paper in the United States should be. We will not praise it farther It speaks eloquently for itself.

Send us 10 or more addresses of your friends who are trying to live without the BLADE.

PETER COOPER is 92. His years are vastly nearer par than ever his financial theories can hope to be.

SEC. FRELINGHUYLEN is too careful of the "susceptibilities of Europe." American susceptibilities are of first importance.

SEN. BEN HILL, of Georgia, must have an unruly tongue. Another operation has been performed, which is said to be highly satisfactory.

THE Woman Suffrage Association of New York wants women policemen appointed at all the stations, to take charge of women—or, as some would say, "lady" prisoners.

THE Catholic Bishop of Montreal has served notice to quit on all tenants of church property selling liquor. This is an example that other churches would do well to follow.

THE latest thing in the insurance line is the organization of companies to insure the lives of babies. This is a species of speculation that should be strangled at its birth.

THE Professors of Yale College presented Pres. WOOLSEY with a handsomely engraved gold medal commemorative of the 50 years' service at Yale College of that distinguished Professor.

EUROPE has received from us another important gift, which it will prize alongside of the potato bug and *trichina spiralis*. The "pink-eye" has arrived in Liverpool, and is playing havoc among the horses.

MRS. LANGTRY has, according to the London *World*, agreed to return to the Haymarket next season, when she will probably play in a revival of "The Overland Route," for which two or three special engagements have been made.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

HORRORS had full sway during the past week. On Friday morning a fire broke out in the fireworks factory, at Chester, Pa., attracting a crowd of sight-seers. Two small explosions were followed later by a terrific explosion that blew a portion of the house to pieces, killed 14 persons, either firemen or spectators, and seriously injured between 30 and 40 others. Many persons, too, were slightly injured by falling bricks and timbers. The scene was one of great excitement. The owner of the factory, when summoned before the Coroner's Jury, could offer no explanation as to how the explosion occurred. It is thought that other deaths will increase the list to 17 or more.

On the same day occurred a fire which destroyed the business part of Haverhill, Mass., and was caused, it is supposed, by an over-heated stove. The flames spread rapidly and the efforts of the firemen were of little avail until after the fire had burned itself out. Over 300 firms were burned out and 2,500 persons were thrown out of employment. About 73 blocks and buildings were burned. The loss is over $2,000,000, which will probably be nearly covered by the insurance. Three lives were lost and three persons are missing. There was no panic during the fire, Arrangements for rebuilding have been made by some firms.

AN unusual depression of markets occurred during the week, and prices of produce and stocks went tumbling until a panic seemed imminent. Part of this was due to the general insecurity induced by the failure of the Union Generale of Paris, but more was caused by the reaction from an undue forcing of prices. Bottom was soon reached, however, and this week opens with a better feeling and more buoyant prices.

THE principal excitement in Europe during the last week was caused by the speech of Gen. SKOBELEFF to the Servian students upon the anniversary of the fall of Geok Tepe. It is considered as a sort of threat to Germany and Austria, and has aroused a good deal of ill feeling there. The Emperor WILLIAM has expressed deep indignation and sorrow in regard to it, and declares that the continuance of such wanton provocation would compel the adoption of energetic measures. SKOBELEFF'S declaration that he does not speak officially, but as a private individual, does not appear to help the matter any, as he is considered the representative of a strong faction in Russia. He is also reported as saying that he believes safety for Europe lies in the union of the Slavs with France. This will preserve the European balance of power, otherwise there will soon be only one power, and that is Germany.

GLADSTONE has recently made a speech in the House of Commons, defending the Irish policy of the Government. It is said that for some cause he omitted the customary visit of the Premier to the Queen on her visit to London and that she finally left the City without seeing him. This has caused much comment.

THE news has been received of the massacre of the inhabitants of Pisco by Peruvian soldiery. A thousand pipes of wine was distributed among the men after they had gained possession of the Town, who, inflamed to madness, proceeded to burn houses and kill the inhabitants. The whole number of victims was 1,000, including 400 resisiting foreigners, who were cut to pieces. The French Consul was also murdered.

THE excitement in regard to the outrages upon the Jews in Russia continues, and as more is known of the matter the more apparent it becomes that many might have been prevented had the authorities used the necessary force.

THE French people do not seem to be frightened out of their love for speculation, by the Union Generale panic, as another financial venture has been entered upon of a similar character. A kind of Credit Mobilier with a capital of 100,000,000 francs, styled the Omnibus Français, is being formed in Paris. The object is to buy stocks and shares at present prices. The directors will represent leading financial establishments.

THE Swiss Federal Council made a proposition for an international treaty fixing the standard for gold and silver coinage which has been refused by all of the leading powers of Europe.

GREAT BRITAIN never hesitated to frankly avow that such and such policy is "necessary for her naval supremacy." She did this in 1856, when the United States offered to give up privateering, if Great Britain would forego blockading. We have precisely the same right to rest our claim to the Isthmian Canal, or to regulate the quarrels among our South American neighbors upon the ground of the maintenance of our National prestige.

THERE is said to be great excitement at Erie, Pa., over the discovery that the "spirit" of a five-year-old boy has been taken possession of by a departed physician, and intercourse with the "spirit land" is now as easy as talking through a telephone. A society has been organized, a charter applied for, lecturers invited, and steps taken to build a hall. A former Mayor of the City is President of the Society.

THE New York Court of Appeals has decided an important case under the liquor law of that State. A widow sued for the loss sustained by the death of her husband, who got drunk at a hotel and was accidentally killed on his way home. The Court decided in favor of the widow. The hotel was owned by a woman and run by her husband.

THE New York *Herald* sent out reporters to interview the prominent men claimed by SHEPHERD to be in hearty sympathy with him in his Peruvian schemes. Without exception they declared they had no knowledge of the man and no interest in his wild scheme.

AGNOSTICISM will, it is said, succeed Estheticism as a social craze, and we shall soon have the curled darlings of the drawing-room prating as glibly and as inanely of Pure reason, as they do now of the correlation of The Good, The Beautiful and The True.

AN effort is being made to have the Tennessee Supreme Court so far modify its recent decision as to permit funding operations to proceed, by striking from the bonds the tax-receivable coupons. The Court has the application under advisement.

A VICIOUS CHEMICAL.

A powerful lobby is in Washington, bending every energy to secure a reduction of the tax on distilled spirits. Its deeds being evil it works in darkness and secrecy. But it will be a fatal error to under-estimate either its determination or its strength for the accomplishment of its ends. Its control of money is practically boundless, and it will hesitate at no expenditure that promises success. As at the moment the reduction is secured, it will begin putting from two to three million dollars a month into the pockets of the relatively few men who now control the distilleries of the country, it will be seen that these men have a stake worth making their best play for.

They propose to reduce the tax from 90 cents a gallon, which it is at present, to 50 cents. This will involve a loss to the Treasury of from $25,000,000 to $40,000,000 a year, growing larger, of course, each year, as the production of whisky increases. It is simply asking us to throw away every year more money than would support the Army, the Navy, or a magnificent system of National education. The only argument in favor of this astounding proposition is that the distillers are paying a heavier tax than any other class of manufacturers, and the Government's finances being now in a prosperous condition, this should not be.

This argument is worth nothing.

Every civilized Government makes spirits and tobacco pay a tax wholly disproportionate to that levied on other manufactures. The only limit is the amount that they can stand, the amount that can be imposed upon them without making such a premium for dishonesty as will defeat the collection of the revenue and breed corruption among the dealers and the revenue officials. NAPOLEON was fond of saying that the two best patriots in France were brandy and tobacco—they did infinitely the most to the support the Government.

The tax we levy on whisky and tobacco is, compared with that of other Nations, very moderate.

It is being honestly paid and collected, and consequently is not a source of demoralization.

It forms a considerable portion of the public revenue; it is drawn from the source best able to afford it, and consequently

It should be the last of the taxes to be reduced.

So long as we need taxes for any purpose whatever, we should make these articles pay as much of them as they can stand.

When we add that this reduction can not be of any benefit whatever to any one except to swell the already large profits of the principal distillers and dealers, we have given all-sufficient reasons for not making the reduction. It is not desirable in any way that we have whisky cheaper than it now is—nor would it be to the consumer in the event of a reduction The difference would be absorbed before it reached the retailer.

The distiller lobby, as we have said, is represented by the best talent that money can procure, and it is resorting to every means to accomplish its object. There is no doubt that it is prepared to purchase votes in any number that may be needed, and at any price that may be required. Where it can not buy votes, it is trading for them. It is trading votes on the tariff, on the match tax, on anything, in fact, to gain a majority for its purposes.

An instant duty is before the people everywhere. It is to take such action as will instruct their Representatives that a reduction of the whisky tax will not be approved, and that a vote in favor of such a measure will be regarded at home as a proof of having been gained over by the whisky lobby's influences. This is a matter that must receive immediate attention. The lobby has its scheme about ripe, and unless there is a strong manifestation of public feeling against it *at once* it will succeed.

Now is the time to act. Meetings should be called everywhere that no Representative be left in ignorance of his constituents' opinions.

ALL is not peace within our borders by any means, The Governor of New York proclaims that there is a rebellion in Steuben County; the Governor of Virginia has called out his navy to destroy the Chesapeake oyster pirates; the City Council of Columbus is about to raise the gonfalon of rebellion against the Legislature of Ohio, every gale that sweeps from the South brings to our ears the clash of conflicting *prime donne* at Cincinnati, and the editors of the Chicago *Tribune* and *Times* are alluding to each other as "a paralytic imbecile" and "a withered filesofer, long since dying a-top." What would be a Chilian war to this?

MEMBERS of Congress can rest easy once more. The Committee has reported adversely on the proposition to reduce salaries from $5,000 to $4,000. Mr. HORR, in submitting the report, took occasion to say that if the salary was reduced only old bachelors could afford the luxury of an election to Congress, and intimated that a man who was too mean to marry was not a fit person to govern others. There is something in this suggestion, and old TILDEN should be sent a marked copy of Mr. HORR'S report.

THE President of the "Peruvian Company" is an exceedingly modest man. Without any warrant whatever he advises his correspondents that nearly all the prominent men in the country are in hearty sympathy with his plans; but the documents cannot be produced to substantiate his assertions.

THE year 1883 starts out with fair promise to rival last year in the number of accidents, collisions, explosions, etc., where human life is sacrificed by wholesale. The list is already appalling.

BALANCE OF POWER.

People who will look for an instant under the surface of things, will see plainly that such intervention as was contemplated in the South American imbroglio was based upon correct principles of international law and duties. It was not wanton meddling, as it has been denounced by the supporters of the present milk-and-water foreign policy. On the contrary, it was strictly in accordance with the fundamental ideas of national duties as expounded by all the great writers and made the basis af action by all leading statesmen.

All statesmanship has ever accepted the theory that all civilized peoples were a community of nations, and that each individual in that community was in honor bound to assist in preserving the general peace, and in protecting all the individuals, and especially the weaker ones, in their possessions. In spite of the wars and conquests which seem to antagonize this idea, it has still been the strongest in European politics for centuries, Without out it such insignificant States as San Marino, Monaco, Luxemburg, and the four score petty Italian and German Duchies, Principalities, etc., which existed up to a few years ago, would not have endured a year. Wars of conquest would have been continually going on, and peace would have been simply impossible. But international laws declared that the humblest member of the family of Nations was entitled to sacred respect for its possessions, and that the entire family was bound to enforce that respect, just as a community declares that the poorest man must be protected in the enjoyment of his property by the arm—if need be, of every other man in the community.

The Congress of Vienna assembled to rearrange boundaries, after the terrible upheaval of the Napoleonic era. Though it no doubt did much injustice, yet the greater part of its work was in accordance with national and race affinities, and it was careful all the time to assert this as its dominant rule. The scores of small States then recognized and outlined, were defended and protected, as a rule, by the whole of Europe. When accessions of territory were made, the greatest care was taken to satisfy the general conscience by making legal color and pretext. Thus the King of Piedmont was restrained from making himself King of all Italy, though the majority of the Italians ardently wished him to do so. The Grand Duchies of Emilia only came under his rule after the people had driven out their rulers, and signified by an overwhelming plebiscite that they desired union with the Sardinian Kingdom. The same was true of Naples and the Papal States. France at one time interposed an army to prevent what it thought was the disregard of the rights of a feebler power. When Lombardy and Venice became a part of the Kingdom of Italy it was in a way to expressly preclude the idea that it was the result of conquest.

The same is true of the present Nord-deutscher Bund. The attempt of Prussia to unite the smaller German powers with her by force would have been resisted to the last, by the whole power of Europe. She could only do it by their free consent. A United Fatherland was the dream of every German patriot, and the opportunity or its realization was afforded when NAPOLEON III. foolishly declared war against Prussia. Nor would the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine been permitted but that they were really German Provinces which had been unlawfully seized by France 200 years before, and it was also just to punish the French for bringing on an unprovoked war.

We had a more recent illustration when Russia tried to despoil Turkey. All the Powers in Europe—except France—prepared for intervention. British fleets anchored before Constantinople, British soldiers camped in Asia Minor, and the Austrian army mobilized on its frontier. Italy and Germany prepared for immediate war.

It will not do to say that this was prompted by jealousy of each other. While there is always much of this ingredient in all these complications, the avowed motive, and the one that gives moral force to every movement, is the duty incumbent upon each Nation to secure international justice.

The same duty is incumbent upon the United States in American affairs. It does not follow that because we are obliged to exercise this duty we are also obliged to maintain an immense military establishment and continually enforce our views by dint of blows. Our preponderating strength makes wholly unnecessary. It is only necessary for us to speak authoritatively to be obediently listened to. If, for example, we should inform Chili that we consider her claim to Peruvian territory unjust, she would not presume for an instant to oppose this decision by force of arms. Our undoubted capacity to enforce our admonitions and our disposition to do so would be all-sufficient.

THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE.

By sticking to its old-fashioned, sound principles of doing business, this company is enabled to report another year of great prosperity. In 1881 the Connecticut Mutual raised its gross assets to $50,258,000, increasing its actual investments nearly $1,000,000, paid to policy-holders more than $6,000,000, of which almost $4,000,000 went for death claims and endowments, and has a clear surplus of $3,387,572 over all liabilities as determined by the severest criterion of solvency. Its great agency business was so carefully managed that the year's operations were entirely closed, leaving no premiums in course of collection. This Company has no secret or patent way of attaining these remarkable results. Its methods are those adapted by every successful business man in the conduct of his own affairs—the application of common sense and common honesty to life insurance. The Connecticut Mutual does not join in the scramble for new risks at any price. By its example it does not encourage men to drop their policies after the first year and go from one company to another as long as they can pass a medical examination. It prefers to insure only those persons who are likely to remain on its books at rates that will relatively maintain its past standard of security and low actual cost. Its constant aim is to promote the interests of its members. The Company's operations (not given in the yearly statement) extending over a period of thirty-six years have achieved the following broad results: A premium income of $128,794,083.45; for interest, rents and balance of profit and loss, $38,779,169.65; a gross income of $161,794,083.00, of which not less than $66,649,598 has been already returned to policy-holders.

DIFFERENTIAL RATES.

The session of the Trunk Line Advisory Commission now being held in New York, brings out many facts supporting our theory that all railroad legislation must eventually be reconstructed on the basis of a compulsory tariff, made the law of the land, and arranged on the principle of the lowest remunerative rate per ton per mile. The Commission, which consists of Judge W.P. COOLEY, of Michigan; ALLEN G. THURMAN, of Ohio, and Hon. E. B WASHBURNE, of Illinois, was constituted by the railroads themselves as a Board of Arbitration to examine into the facts, and, if possible, suggest means by which the present railroad war can be ended.

The starting point in the war was a question of "differential rates"—that is, Baltimore and Philadelphia, which are nearer the West than New York, demanded that the freight rates to and from them to the West should be lower than to New York. In 1869 the rate between Philadelphia and Western points was $2 per ton less than from New York, but was gradually forced down until in the beginning of last year the difference was only 40 cents, and that of Baltimore but 60 cents.

New York demands that these differential rates be abolished altogether. The *Times* says:

> Differential rates must simply be abandoned. They are founded neither in reason nor justice, and it is not for four or five railroad corporations to agree among themselves that the commerce of the metropolis shall be handicapped for the benefit of other Cities which have not the same advantages. Whatever the natural or acquired advantages of New York as a seaport may be, it is entitled to the full benefit of them, and they should not be offset by an arbitrary charge upon traffic destined for its wharves, with a view to building up the business of other ports.

The *Times* fails to see the logical alternative with which it is confronted. It is undoubtedly a vicious principle to introduce into commercial affairs to allow the managers of the great highways of the Nation to combine among themselves to arrange the tolls they will take from the country's commerce. But if it is bad to allow them to say that freight shall be hauled to Philadelphia or Baltimore at rates corresponding to the less distance, why is it not still worse for them to combine to say that no producer or consumer shall have the benefit of a shorter haul and lower rates? Is it not unjustifiable extortion and tyranny to compel a man who wants to take advantage of the nearer Philadelphia and Baltimore markets, to go to the more distant ones of New York? Yet this is what the *Times* would have done. No commercial system, built up on such a vicious perversion of natural laws can have a prosperous growth.

Distance is, and must always be, an important factor in the transportation problem. No arbitrary arrangements can obliterate it. New York has other advantages which may partially compensate for her defective position; her immense commerce makes her ocean rates less than can be obtained at Philadelphia or Baltimore, and she has the right to these, but she has no right to demand any arrangement which will force the hauling of produce to her warehouses, to the detriment of those of her competitors.

EASTERN COMPLICATIONS.

There is now a great deal of uneasiness felt in England, baused by the complications in Egyptian affairs. This is naturally explained by the steady increase in the proportion of British tonnage in the Suez Canal since it has been opened to the world. Comparing the years, it is found that in 1870 the tonnage of Great Britain was 64 per cent. of the whole, and it has gone on until in 1881 it was 82 per cent. of the whole commerce of the globe there having passed through the canal during the year 2,256 vessels under the British flag, while only 109 were under the French colors. As it would now appear from the map, Cairo has in reality become the true geographical center of the British Empire, as the influence supreme there, controls the approaches to India. Although the canal was built by the French, it has been mainly used by the English, who have made it a most remunerative investment. Shares, which had a nominal value of $100, sold at $44 in 1863. In 1880 the same shares went up from $143 to $265, and after a nine per cent. dividend were in 1881 quoted at $340. During the last nine months past, on the crest of the great speculation in stocks in France, the shares in January rose to $700. Since then during the prevalence of the recent panic although there was a drop to $420, the assurance of a dividend of 12 per cent. on the entire capital stock, based on the increased receipts from actual business of over $2,250,000, is yet an inducement to purchasers to hold on, at the last named price, in the expectation of a 12 per cent. dividend at that figure.

The English, it is true, have more use for the canal than has any other Nation, but the truth remains that it was planned and built by French engineers, and French capitalists largely own the capital stock. On the general money market of the world Egyptian securities have been made the basis of a foreign intervention at Cairo. These securities are held in great bulk in Paris. The idea of joint financial control on the Nile by the representatives of their own and the French Government may be distasteful to the Englishmen, and they are willing to admit that it is a partnership based on distinct interests, but they can not see why Germany and Austria-Hungary, that have no commercial interests in the East, should look upon the canal and the Egyptian revenue as European interests.

THE anti-polygamy bill passed by the Senate differs from that passed by the House by making polygamy a penal offense, dispossesses the polygamist office-holder and disfranchises the voter who practices polygamy. The House bill merely said polygamists should be ineligible to election to Congress. It is thought the House will adopt the Senate bill, and then all that will be needed to stamp out polygamy will be to see that the law is enforced.

LADIES who persist in swallowing patent medicines to prevent growing fat will be interested in the statement that another death is reported in London from this cause. The anti-fat nostrums are slow poisons and should be outlawed.

AN appropriation of $5,000 is asked for by the Agricultural Department to enable a Commission to investigate and report on the "damage likely to be inflicted" by Rocky Mountain locusts. A report on the next flood would be about as sensible.

SEC. FOLGER is talked of as the Republican candidate for Governor of New York.

A REAL OLD-FASHIONED GHOST STORY.

"The increase of knowledge diminishes happiness," say the Pessimists, and one of the results of the universal spread of the common school system has been the destruction of the delightful ghost stories that formed so large a portion of the intellectual pleasures of our youths. But rarely now does the family gather round the hearthstone, in the flickering and uncertain firelight, and listen with bated breath to some withered relic of a superstitious past telling in cracked falsetto a tale

> Whose lightest word
> Would harrow up thy soul, freeze thy young blood,
> Make thy two eyes like stars start from their spheres,
> Thy knotted and combined locks to part
> And each particular hair to stand on end
> Like quills upon the fretful porcupine.

The extinction of these thrilling mental recreations has left an aching void, which "the fairy tales of science" can never hope to fill. The genuine old ghost, who came upon the scene just as the clocks were striking 12, with garments exhaling eloquent odor of decay, which turned the lights a spectral blue, and thicked men's blood with cold, was after all a much more entertaining fellow than the ichthyosaurus, or the pterodactyl, or any of those other palezoic monsters, who chewed up pine trees, as a cow does hay-straws. We cannot, as a rule, get up a vivid feeling about horrors that died tens of thousands of years ago; it is the fellow that is liable to come to the side of our virtuous couch any night after we have had too much mince pie for supper, that claims our earnest attention. He gets a grip on us like a Sheriff with a *capias*, and we give our whole mind to him—until the wife of our bosom makes us "turn over on the other side, so as to stop that awful snoring."

Therefore, the man who can construct in these unbelieving days, a good, blood-curdling ghost story, of the real old style, and tell it with the unction and fervor that will secure attention, possibly belief, is a real "valued contributor" to our stock of intellectual diversions. Such a one has been found in a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, writing from Youngstown, O. The story is so artistically constructed, with such careful adherence to all the canons of the best models of ghost literature that we are constrained to give it entire, if for no other reason than to furnish the rising generation, which has nothing better than JULES VERNE'S stories, a specimen of the intellectual pabulum of their fathers. Here it is:

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 15.—In the side of a ravine near the Village of Mount Nebo, 10 miles southeast of this city, is a cave which is an object of horror to the superstitious, and of peculiar interest to the adventurously inclined.

One night, 30 years ago, so the story goes, two men sought shelter in the cave from a blinding snow-storm. One was a simple-minded old peddler, who for years had supplied the farm-houses in the vicinity with his wares, which he carried in a pack upon his back. The other was a friend whom he had long known and whom he had met an hour before, belated like himself and seeking shelter from the storm.

Once in the cave a blazing fire was soon started, which effectually shut out the cold blasts of wind and snow, and the two men prepared to pass the night as comfortably as possible. The peddler drew from his pocket a handful of money, and, after counting it, slipped it into a money-belt which he wore about his waist. He made no effort to conceal the fact that the belt was heavy with gold, and talked as simply and unsuspectingly as a child of the time, soon coming, when he could forsake his pack forever and, with the money he had saved, end his days in peace and comfort. After readjusting the belt about his waist he laid down and was soon fast asleep, his pack serving him as a pillow.

His companion, whom the sight of the gold had excited to desperation, feigned sleep, until the breathing of the pedler assured him of his complete unconsciousness. Satisfied of this, the man, his eyes glittering fiercely in the firelight, drew from his pocket a large clasp-knife, opened the blade and drove it, with devilish precision, into the sleeper's heart.

It was all over in a moment. The dark blood gushed from the wound in a thick stream, there was a nervous twitching of the hands, the eyelids half opened and the eyes turned inwardly, the neck stiffened and drew the head back, and all was rigid and till again.

The murderer groped for the belt, and drew it out, wet and slimy with blood. He hastily poured the gold out and looked at it, and ran it through his hands. In the fascination of the gold he forgot all else, and only remembered the crime and the victim when a stream of blood trickled down from the corpse's breast, and formed in a pool where the gold lay. Then a consciousness of his position flashed upon him, and he tossed the body into the darkness in the back part of the cave, and with the bloody clasp-knife dug a hole and buried the gold for which he had paid so terrible a price.

He would not remain in the cave with the body of his murdered friend, and he rushed out into the snow, intending to return some time and recover the fortune—for there were thousands of dollars in the peddler's hoard. The clasp-knife he still retained, and with it he "blazed" trees along his path so that he might be able to find his way to the cave more easily on his return.

A month later he was lying in a hospital at Cleveland, haggard and helpless. He had been found in the snow miles away from the scene of his crime, so badly frozen that amputation of his hands and feet were performed in a desperate effort to save his life. Pitying Samaritans had cared for him, little suspecting that the object of their sympathy was a murderer.

He lingered in the hospital for months, and then then they told him he must die. The remembrance of the crime which he was expiating so terribly became to much for him to bear. He sent for his niece, to whom he told his story, and died.

Scarcely waiting to see the maimed body of the murderer consigned to the grave, the niece and her husband hastened to Mount Nebo and made inquiries concerning the disappearance of the pedler. By means of the blazed trees which the murderer had described they found the cave, only to discover that its walls and rock had fallen in and barred up the entrance. The husband set to work, assisted by farm hands who lived in the vicinity, to remove the rocks. After they had progressed a few feet they were startled by unearthly voices and lights that sounded and gleamed through fissures in the rocks from the darkness in the interior of the cavern. The exploring party immediately abandoned the work, and a moment later the rocks fell in, filling up anew the space which had been excavated.

Since then many unsuccessful attempts have been made to open the cave. One was by Mr. Conrad Dittmar, who owns the premises upon which the cave is situated. He declares the place is undoubtedly haunted, and testified to having heard and seen the voices and lights which frightened the first exploring party.

A party of four men, living near Mount Nebo, attempted to open the entrance, and had the temerity to camp out over night at the mouth of the cave. After dark, while sitting around their camp-fire, they distinctly saw the ghostly figure of a man standing a few feet from them. Upon being addressed the figure faded away into nothingness. The hair of one of the party became instantly perfectly white, and a day or so later he died, so they say. The survivors declare that the figure they saw corresponded exactly to the descriptions of the murdered peddler given by those who remember him.

One individual who ventured to the place after dark exhibited scars and bruises for weeks afterward in proof of his story that he had been picked up bodily by unseen hands and tossed into the creek that runs along the bottom of the ravine.

A "spirit medium" who visited the place said that the fortune would not be recovered for many years to come.

The trees standing on the hill-side immediately around the cave are black and lifeless, and have the the appearance of having been burned with fire.

The story of the murder is well authenticated, and the ghost stories are implicitly believed by the residents of Mount Nebo and vicinity.

This shows a development of the imagination in Mahoning County that has hitherto been unsuspected. The general belief is that the energies of that section are mainly devoted to pig-iron and mining strikes. A talent for weird and supernatural literature has yet to be developed.

most of the capabilities of the country, which we trust will be carefully developed. There is a steady demand for a supply of such stories as these. We presume the manufacturers of patent outsides will pay handsomely for any number that could be furnished.

MRS. SCOVILLE'S LETTER.

The mildest term that can be applied to Mrs. SCOVILLE'S letter to Mrs. GARFIELD is that it was unfortunate—very unfortunate. While it is true that nothing can intensify the bitterness with which the American people regard the vile little insect now awaiting the final process of the law in the jail at Washington, this appeal will do what can be done to deepen the hatred against him, and stifle the slightest suggestion of pity. It seems like an unspeakable outrage upon the sacredness of Mrs. GARFIELD'S grief to have any one connected with the wretch obtrude a knowledge of his existence upon her. When this obtrusion takes the form of an appeal in the name of mercy for an interference with the course of justice, the outrage becomes transcendant.

The utter uselessness of the appeal aggravates this. Mrs. GARFIELD has nothing whatever to do with the Guiteau case. She has no more legal connection with it than has any other citizen of the Nation. It is true that she was feloniously robbed of a husband. But the Nation was at the same time feloniously robbed of a Chief Magistrate.

The victim was slain, not because he was her husband, but because he was a Chief Magistrate. But even had he been slain as a private citizen, the case would not be altered. Murder is essentially a public wrong, with which the public alone must deal. All private griefs, feelings, revenges and lenities are carefully excluded from the consideration of the case. In nothing is the law more strenuous than in this. Even were there the strongest possible extenuating circumstances, Mrs. GARFIELD would be the last possible one to present them for consideration. It is shocking to even conceive of a wife sitting in judgment upon the excuses and motives of the man who has killed her husband.

So far sisterly devotion has gained for Mrs. SCOVILLE the lenity of the public. But she is treading on very delicate ground. The American people are generous and forbearing, even when as sorely tried as they have been in this case. There is imminent danger just now of testing this too strongly. It were far better for her that she have a millstone about her neck, and be cast into the sea than to provoke the odium that will follow a belief that she sympathizes too earnestly with her infamous brother.

DR. G. A. GESSNER, of Fremont, O., (late of the 72nd O. V. V. I.) is conducting a magnificent campaign against Gunown STURGIS, and the chances are that that monumental imbecile will at last be exposed before the Nation in his true light. Since the notice in the BLADE to Guntown survivors Dr. GESSNER has been flooded with letters from all parts of the country—from privates and officers, even as high as Brigadier Generals, who all bear fearful testimony as to the shameless manner in which that pet of West Pointism sacrificed a magnificent division. The Cincinnati *Gazette*, Cleveland *Leader*, Columbus *Capital* and other papers have taken the matter up. Dr. GESSNER has compiled much of the evidence into a printed pamphlet, which will be sent to every member of Congress. There are now four Guntown survivors in Congress—Sen. EDGERTON, of Minnesota, Representatives JOHN B. RICE, of Ohio; THOS. M. BROWNE, of Indiana, and HORACE B. STRAIT, of Minnesota. This insures that the matter will not be allowed to be smothered over in either body.

THIS Nation seems now to be large enough to be able to assert its own policy without any reference to what view European Governments may take of it. We are abundantly strong enough to do what we think is *right* without reference to consequences. It is our duty to inquire into the South American quarrel, and to decide upon its equities. It is our duty to inform ourselves definitely as to the cause of the war—who was right, who wrong, and whether the victor is abusing his victory. To not do this is selfish and cowardly. It would be like some great hulking fellow who lets bullies and robbers outrage and plunder whom they please, so long as they let him alone. As every citizen is responsible, in proportion to his standing and influence, for the peace and morals of the community in which he lives, so are we responsible, above all others, for the preservation of peace and the reign of justice throughout the Americas.

MR. ERNEST WARREN, the author of "Throne and Scaffold," the story shortly to be commenced in the BLADE, is one of the best-known novelists of London, an author whose works have never yet failed to meet acceptance on the other side of the water. "Throne and Scaffold" is a story of old England, and is not only of absorbing interest, but an instructive picture of the manners and customs of the long ago. Mr. WARREN spent many months upon it, and it is historically correct. It has been pronounced by the closest critics to be the best historical novel of the last 25 years.

THE gold beaters of Philadelphia have been on a strike for eight months, the union to which they belong having in that time furnished $19,600 for the support of members. The firm concerned is that of HASTINGS & Co., which before the strike produced the greater part of all the gold leaf used in the country. In all other Cities the union has full sway, and it is now proposed by other unions to reduce prices so low that the Philadelphia firm will have to run at a loss, shut down, or submit to the terms of the union.

REV. MR. MILN, the deposed Chicago minister, says the action of the church is tantamount to closing every Unitarian pulpit in the country against him. He says he will continue to draw his salary for the next three months, but after that he does not know what he will do unless he forms a society for ethical culture. Heretical preachers will come to understand after awhile that congregations have some rights that they must respect.

BY the fire at Haverhill, Mass., 69 shoe manufactories, two banks, 12 dwelling houses and 15 or 20 houses used for offices, stores, etc., were burned out. The loss is not less than $2,500,000.

SEND in the names of your friends, that we may send them a specimen copy of the WEEKLY BLADE.

TIMES are hard in Chicago, and the people of that burg only spent $100,000 on valentines this year.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The Georgia State Agricultural Society resolved that more grain and less cotton should be raised.——South Carolina Republicans think the best way to break down the Democratic party in that State is to adopt a policy of masterly inactivity until the Democrats break up into factions.——The ice moved out of the Delaware River Wednesday.——A letter has been received in Washington announcing the safe arrival in Siberia of the emigrants sent out by the American Colonization Society.——In the New York Legislature, Wednesday, the Tammany members voted with the Republicans, and the latter party now controls the patronage of both branches.——There was almost a panic in the Chicago markets last week. Prices of grain and provisions declined considerably, and several failures occurred.——The Agricultural Bureau asks appropriations aggregating $459,350.——W. C. Clark, of Chicago, head of a wholesale paper house, is said to have swindled his partners out of $180,000 and left for New York. The old firm will pay all claims. Clark denies that he has swindled anyone. ——All the Texas streams have been greatly swollen and much damage has resulted from the overflow.——The Trades Assembly of San Francisco call for anti-Chinese legislation and threaten political death to all who oppose their demands.——Arrangements have been made in Philadelphia to take care of refugee Jews from Russia.——T. W. Patton, son of a former Mayor of Detroit, was shot and killed in a barroom quarrel in that City.——St. Louis is shipping grain to Liverpool by way of New Orleans.——Twelve business houses of Robinson, Kan., were destroyed by fire Thursday.——The House Committee on Banking agreed to report favorably a bill for the retirement of the 9,000,000 trade dollars now in circulation.——The failures for the week ending Saturday were 154 in number.——The Wisconsin State Senate has passed a bill to restore capital punishment.——The postal savings bank bill will, it is thought, become a law.——The three leading candidates for the appointment to succeed ex-Justice Hunt, of the Supreme Court, are Judge Blatchford, of New York, Judge Andrews, of New York, who succeeded Sec. Folger as Chief Justice of the New York Court of Appeals, and Clarence Seward, also of New York.——Gen. Sherman has invited Gens. Sheridan, Hancock, Howard and Terry to be present at the Garfield obsequies at the Capitol on the 27th inst.——There are now about 365,000 cases before the Pension Commission for adjudication. The present force at work just about turns out the same number of cases as come in. So, basing the estimate on the present force at the Pension Bureau, the work is seven years behind.——Patti celebrated her 39th birthday Sunday by giving a dinner to her friends in Cincinnati.——There is no news from Navin, the refugee Mayor of Adrian, Mich.——The first proof of the new five cent Garfield stamp is to be sent to Queen Victoria, at the request of Mrs. Garfield

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM BUCKEYE.

Democratic Opinion of Democrats in Alabama—The New State—The Sherman Scandals—Assistant Secretary of the Treasury—Mr. Dawes on Civil Service—Spurious Butter—The Barton Affray.

Correspondence Toledo Blade.

WASHINGTON, February 17, 1882.

The Republicans of Washington rather enjoy the unpleasantness which exists in the Democratic family of Alabama, where everything has been so lovely of late that it was an insult to the good name of Democracy to hint that a black man had ever been deprived of any of his newly-acquired rights. But it is said that "when rogues fall out honest men get their dues." If this old saw should prove to be literally true, there is likely to open a new dispensation to colored men of Alabama.

It appears that the last Democratic State Convention fixed the representation for the next Convention at one delegate for every 200 Democratic votes given at the August election. When the August election took place it proved to be a sample of the most ultra type of Bourbon tactics. The election was for State and County officers, for Sheriffs, Coroners, etc., and was therefore to be carried at all hazards; and in the Counties where the black vote largely predominated it was carried by stuffing ballot boxes, making false returns, and other similar means. Hence, while the plan succeeded, it had the effect of piling up an immense domestic vote which was only laughed at then, but has since "returned to plague the inventors." The next State Convention is drawing near, and the vote at the August election assumes a new importance, since all these false returns are to be counted in the apportionment of delegates, and the strong white Counties find themselves overborne by weak black or Republican Counties. This is a result that is not to be endured, and the white Counties are very bitter over it. Here, for example, is a paragraph from the Troy *Inquirer* a Bourbon organ of Pike County. Just notice how much easier it is for this organ to tell the truth now than it was at the August election:

"At that election not only the State officers but also County officers were elected—many to serve six years—and in Counties where the negro vote preponderated it was determined upon that Democrats should be elected by the returns, and it was accomplished. *Any plan, scheme, or device that would accomplish the result*, regardless of the criminality of its exercise or use, was to have been invoked and was executed. To express the belief that more than one County has officers who were not elected by the vote cast is to voice the opinion of almost every one who is well informed. But is immaterial so far as that affects this question. *To cheat a Radical candidate out of an office is a patriotic action in the eyes of many*; but the swindle does not end at that. *The illegal, stolen and fraudulent votes that were used to defeat a Radical now comes to the front to swindle Democrats by representation in a Convention.* The black Belt Counties have a third less Democratic votes than the white Counties, yet in the next State Convention they will cast a third more votes."

That is decidedly bad! It was of no consequence to cheat a "Radical," but when it comes to cheating a Bourbon the matter becomes serious. Still, wouldn't it have been more decent to have stuck to the lies of the August election and suffered these wrongs in silence?

The proposition to organize a new State out of the Southern half of Dakota meets with more favor than was expected. The sub-committee of the Committee on Territories consisting of three Republicans and two Democrats, agreed unanimously on a bill some days ago and it has, since then, been adopted by the full Committee and the report is ready to be presented to Congress. But the Democrats who favored the bill in the Committee have not agreed the report, and evidently prefer to keep themselves in a position to act with their party, which will not be very enthusiastic for a bill which is to make another Republican State and add two Senators to the Republican side of the Senate. If any such bill is allowed to pass it will only be at the last end of this Congress. The line of division between the State and the Territory is the 46th parallel of latitude.

The Committee appointed to investigate the Pitney scandals of the Treasury department are ready to report, and it is given out that the report will exonorate Mr. Sherman, and will also lead to some salutary checks with the view of preventing these small peculations in future. The report will show that there was nothing before the Committee to indicate that Mr. Sherman had any knowledge of the irregularities which have been brought to light. There have been very particular statements to the effect that the Secretary, while building his new house, detailed mechanics from the Treasury to work on it and that they were paid on the pay roll of the Department. Even so late as last week these stories were renewed with the added particulars that Ex-Custodian Pitney had testified strongly against Mr. Sherman and produced letters from Mr. and Mrs. Sherman asking for such workmen. There appears to be no truth in these loose charges and the indignant card of the Senator shows that no such proof was before the committee. Sen. Davis, of West Virginia, is on the committee and it has been said that he would make a minority report containing severe censures of Mr. Sherman, but this appears to be without foundation. No minority report is to be made.

The place of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, vacated by the resignation of Mr. Upton and filled so often by the newspapers, has, at last, been effectually disposed of. John C. New, of Indiana, the new incumbent, is the same person who was called to Washington in the days of Mr. Bristow to fill the office of Treasurer, after the resignation of Gen. Spinner. As Chairman of the State Republican Committee he inaugurated the policy of fighting the Presidential battle in Indiana at the October election; and, as that policy was successful, he has been a large figure in Indiana politics. The talk on "Newspaper Row" is that he will probably remain Assistant Secretary for a short time and then be called into the Cabinet.

Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, has put forward his bill for promoting the purity of the civil service, and spoke at length in the Senate Monday, in advocacy of its provisions. The bill is of considerable length and is intended to do away with political influence in making appointments and substituting competive examinations. But these competitions are only to apply to grades of $1,200 and under—that is to say to cases of admission. Within the service promotions are to be made on other examinations to be established by the President. These rules are to regulate the departments in Washington, the Custom Houses and large Postoffices and wherever the service requires 20 or more clerks. In the case of places of higher grades, if no person already in the service is deemed to have the adequate qualifications for promotion the President may make appointments from without.

Some curious facts in regard to the manufacture of spurious butter have been laid before the Committee of Ways and Means with the view of obtaining corrective legislation. It appears that the article called oleomargarine cannot easily be distinguished from dairy butter, and it is sold largely in our own markets and also exported to foreign countries. As the cost is only about nine or 10 cents a pound the manufacture is very profitable and is rapidly increasing. In New York alone it is estimated that 20,000,000 of pounds, or about one-fifth of the genuine butter product, is annually made. Of course the effect on the dairies is very injurious and they desire such legislation as will compel the manufacturers to sell their product for what it is. There is no complaint that the spurious article is injurious to health; but as it is a juggle and a cheat it is desired that the manufacturers should be compelled to show their hands and be made to conduct their business in an honest way.

The affray in the office of the *Republican* had a fatal termination. The elder Sotelido, according to the inquest, was shot by his brother during his attempts to kill Barton. The wounds of Barton are healing, and he appeared at the office in a damaged condition, a day or two ago. The younger Sotelido is in jail and will be held for killing.

Yesterday was a very important day in both Houses of Congress. In the Senate, Mr. Edmunds's bill (reported from the Judiciary Committee) to suppress polygamy was further considered, and the debate was very lively and full of interest. A good deal of opposition was manifested to it on the part of the Democrats, but when it was finally brought to a vote (first case) no one appeared to vote in the negative. The bill disfranchises polygamists and bigamists, turns them out of office and disqualifies them for holding office. In the mean time, until new elections can be held, the Government is placed in the hands of a Board of officers to be appointed by the President. Mr. Edmunds said in his last 10-minutes' speech that the Mormon theory might continue to control the Government of Utah, notwithstanding this legislation, but the mile's mess were must be tried before those more severe were resorted to. The plan is much more thorough than any theory hitherto suggested.

In the House the apportionment bill, after a long period of debate, was finally brought to a vote. The new plan reported by the committee for adjusting the fractions over and above the standard number was rejected and the plan, as hitherto in use, was adhered to. In regard to the number of representatives there was a wide difference. Mr. Cox, in order to prevent the adoption of 307 withdrew it. The number finally adopted was neither 307 nor 319, nor the 330 reported by the committee, but 325. The vote was 162 ayes and 104 noes. It increases the number from New York to 34 and the number from Ohio to 21. Rhode Island has two and Florida two, as before. The increase is from 293 to 325.

Col. Meacham, somewhat noted on account of his connection with Indian affairs in Colorado, died suddenly last night. He was only 56 years of age.

The President gave his first State dinner last night which is reported as a very magnificent and tasteful display. BUCKEYE.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

Artistic Display of Spring Goods—American Silks—Millinery Goods—Fashion's Fancy—Spring Wraps.

Correspondence of the Toledo Blade.

BOSTON, Feb. 18, 1882.

The immense show windows at the leading dry goods stores have taken off their holiday dress and donned their Spring attire.

The early Spring goods are artistically displayed, drawing thousands of spectators who appreciate the taste in this line of decorative art.

It is surprising to see how elegantly these fabrics can be arranged. In the first place a sketch is planned, and it is said that in one of our stores it took a dozen men two days to arrange the goods after the sketch was completed.

In two windows are Scotch ginghams with lace trimmings, and just a sprinkling of flowers.

Handsome suits made from the latest French designs are arranged in the foreground. In the background the columns and cornercopias formed of the goods are placed so that the colors blend harmoniously and the effect is charming and delightful to the eyes of the beholders.

In another window only the printed French satines in the background with suits of satine are used. The goods are arranged in columns and fans, producing a very attractive appearance.

The ginghams comprise *more than five hundred different styles*, an endless variety of plaid and shaded stripes, plain and shaded plaids, block checks, pinked checks, pencil stripes and plain colors. Among the woolen goods imported are cashmere, beiges, armures, coburettes, black and white checks, colored checks with stripes to match, also plaids in large and small designs.

In the light woolen stuffs, prepared for early Spring are goods woven in checks a little larger than the pin head size. These are to be used for underskirts and worn with overdresses of other goods with checked grounds, raised by clusters of fine stripes in the same colors. Checks of two shades of the same color are made up in combination with Roman stripes on a ground of the darkest shade.

The linen lawns will be extensively used for Summer dresses; they will be popular for when laundered they have the appearance of new. They are also much cooler than many other materials used for white dresses. Sheer linen cambries will also be very fashionable. For the trimming of these dresses the new lace like embroidery will be mostly in favor. Lace striped and lace plaid figures also nainsook satin plaid make very pretty and inexpensive dresses. The former can be bought for 12½ cents and the latter for 17 cents per yard.

The samples of summer silks and the more expensive goods to be imported in a few weeks are elegant, and will be very tempting to those who have full purses. The grenadines will be especially beautiful.

It seems as if the ingenuity of the designer and inventor, had reached the *ne plus ultra* in the best combinations of color and finish of texture, so attractive are the dress materials this season.

Shrewd buyers are already purchasing summer as well as the spring goods, as often later in the season it is impossible to duplicate them.

AMERICAN SILKS.

American ladies are beginning to appreciate the domestic silks, and to comprehend that they are much more durable than the imported. They do not crack or fray, nor what is so fearfully annoying to those who wear the French silks, grow shiny in a few month's wear. It is claimed that the heavy dyes and chemicals employed cause the cracking and creasing of the silks. A good test to find the purity of the silk, is to draw out a few threads from the edge and burn them. Pure silk will instantly crisp, leaving only charcoal. Heavily dyed silk will smoulder in a heavy greasy ash. The American brocades and gros grains are said to be of entirely pure silk, requiring a critical observation to distinguish them from reeled silk fabrics.

The Cheney silks intended for Spring wear have satin surfaces over which small designs in contrasting colors are scattered. The Cheneys are making this season silk embroideries similar to those imported last year. The Paterson silk manufacturers prophesy that light silks will be in demand next Summer, and are preparing large quantities of goods.

OUTSIDE WRAPS.

The wholesale stores are already busy making wraps for the Spring. Two shapes that have met with favor during the Winter will be worn. These are the Jersey jacket and the short Worth mantle. The Jersey is made long, single-breasted with the back seams closed their entire length, so as to make the garment fit closely over the hips and tournure. It has the appearance of the woven Jersey, has neither lappets outside pockets, or buttons at the back that are always found on the English walking jackets, a single row of small buttons fasten this jacket down the entire front. It has no trimming excepting tubular braid put on in military rows and is made long enough to fit well without wrinkling when sitting down.

The short Worth mantles are made of black satin or of camels hair. They are trimmed with gathered ruffles of the material and with frills of Spanish lace or full chenille ruches. They are also made of chenille ruches. They are also made of chenille ruches. They are also made of

The Household.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write "House old Department" on the envelope.

2. Give real name and Postoffice address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.

4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

HOME TALKS.—Since the commencement of our talks about the decorations of homes, the letters from those who have a desire to make them attractive, asking all sorts of questions, have become so numerous as to be a most convincing proof that women are thoroughly awake to the possibility of improving their surroundings, and to make its doing a pleasure. While we are delighted to know that this is so, and would gladly answer each individual, we are unable to do anything but reply to most of the communications in a general way. The following letter was received a short time ago:

THE BLADE finds its way into thousands of cottages comprising kitchen, dining-room, bed-room, sitting-room and hall, with chambers in the second story, costing from $1,000 to $1,500. In this part of the country, the woodwork in said houses is painted white, except the kitchen. The walls are white, hard finish. Please give us hints in the Home Talks how to renovate such a house. What color shall woodwork in each room be painted? Shall the walls be tinted or papered? What color used? What shall the window draperies be, and what color? Materials should not be too expensive, for these are country homes. What the prevailing tone of carpet? The sitting-room has a bay-window. I hope the Home Talks will not be discontinued. They are the best part of THE HOUSEHOLD. INQUIRER.

A cottage such as our correspondent speaks of, may be a very homely, comfortless looking dwelling, or with a little time and expense, combined with good taste, be made bright and beautiful. To begin with, cold hard white walls and glaring white painted woodwork should be banished from every room in the house. No amount of fine furniture and pictures can make pleasant artistic looking apartments with this background. The day when dazzling white held absolute sway over the best part of the house has gone by, we trust, forever.

In that case, what is to be done? Paint the wood work with pretty harmonious or contrasting colors, paper the walls and delicately color and stencil the ceilings. This should be done upon both floors, as the sleeping apartments are quite as important as the rooms below. Now as to particulars. First take the dining room. This will bear a decided treatment as to coloring.

Paint the wood work a dark olive green shading out to light with narrow moldings of a deep, dull red or maroon. Let the paper upon the wall have a back ground of maroon with running figures of the olives, or what is better, gilt. These figures should not be heavy. What would be prettier still would be a plain maroon paper paneled with strips of the dark olive green not more than three inches wide, and narrow gilt moldings each side. If the room is very low put a frieze at top and bottom of the olive greens and gilt; if not a dado of olive green with moldings of gilt and maroon. The ceiling may be tinted with a lighter shade of the green and stenciled in the corners with the darker shade and gilt. Put a center piece of maroon and gilt.

The carpet to go with these colors should be of a small mixed pattern and neutral in tint, the colors harmonizing rather than contrasting with the walls and woodwork.

Another time we will speak of the sitting room, bed rooms, hall, etc.—ED. HOUSEHOLD.

FANCY WORK—*Directions for Making Wax Flowers.*—"Mary," to make wax flowers it is necessary to have patterns. To secure these take a well formed natural flower, a rose for instance, separate, take three sizes of petals and cut 20 of each. Take your wire and cover carefully the stem at the end; put a small ball of wax from the refuse, then cover with a tint darker than the petals; take a few rose stems and press firmly around the wax ball for center of rose. Now to prepare the petals: If you are handy with the brush, get pure white wax and color to suit, darkening the petals toward the base, if not, the wax can be procured in every color.

Have ready prepared chalk; take a clean sheet of paper, rub, carefully removing all particles, as too much chalk prevents the petals from sticking together. Geta wax pin—which is the same as a hat pin—lay your sheet wax on the paper, place the rose petal pattern on and cut with the point of your knife. After you have the number cut, place them in the heart of the hand, take the head of the pin, which must be round and about the size of a pea, and carefully roll till the leaf is the shape of the natural. Take the smaller ones and carefully press around the stem, leaving each petal extend a trifle above the other, placing them not directly behind the other, but that half the lobe of the third may cover half the lobe of the first and second. After all are on make the calx the same as pattern and press on and the rose is finished; for the leaves a mould is necessary, as for all leaves. For innocence and heliotrope a cutter must be had, after cutting, with the pin put a hole through the center, and put a single stamen in, working a small particle of wax under, to keep it to its place. These go in clusters of 50 or 60 to suit taste.

For lillies, tulips, etc., after cutting the petals, take hair-wire and make veins; it also stiffens; then cut a second petal and cut over to hide the wire; so in all large flowers.

Lillies of the valley: a lead pencil or pen holder must be trimmed the desired shape; gather the refuse parts, pure white, and place in an ironstone vessel, dip the point in cold water, then in the melted wax, quickly removing, that no drop may gather on the end; turn the pencil until cool, then take off, repeating until the amount wanted is made. Take a small pair of nippers and nick the edge; fill the stamens, dusting yellow powder in the center, fix on stem, and proceed with the dahlia. After cutting petals, double the corners of the base in, fasten the number made according to the size of the flower, and place on the stem which has been formerly prepared with numerous small stamens. Lay that over as finished and get your stamens made for your larger lily—cover hair wire—take a small piece of brown wax and put on the end, fastening the wire through the middle. Pansies, daisies, etc., are all made on the same style; leaves, fruits, animals., are all moulded.

If you will give me space I will give directions for making moulds for fruit, etc.—PEARL OMMA, Mount Pleasant, Pa.

We shall be glad to hear from "Pearl Omma" upon the subject mentioned.

FEMALE SLAVERY IN FACT.—The slaves are everywhere in this boasted land of freedom! One hundred and four days every year over the wash tub and ironing table! Is not a wife her husband's slave, when he subjects her to severer labor than he ever does himself for one-third of her life-time? Why not get hand mills and let her grind the corn and wheat for household use, and put in the rest of her time? If she could do the week's grinding up in a day, set her to carding, spinning, and weaving, as well as making the cloth for the family?

No man has any more right to require a woman to labor excessively (and washing and ironing is excessive labor) over the wash-tub and ironing-table than he has to compel her to grind his wheat and corn. In savage and semi-civilized countries the women have this to do, but as washing-day does not amount to much with them I believe our women are worse off than than they.

"Oh, well," the slave owner—the husband, I mean—says, "my wife has a washing-machine." My dear sir, you have a mowing-machine and a self-binder, but do you draw them yourself?

It is a fact that is settled by the women themselves, that washing-machines only mitigate, but do not remove the terrors of washing-day. There is no perfect washing-machine for home use, and if there were, there is no ready way of applying power to run it, other than by the muscles of the slaves before mentioned. Many men would prefer to hire their washing done if they could do so, but it is a difficult thing to do in the country.

In the absence of any better way the only correct thing for the man to do is to roll up his sleeves and do the hardest part of the work himself. What is needed in every neighborhood is a laundry, where one man can do the washing of 50 or 100 families and make this a regular business, as the miller makes it a business grinding your wheat and corn. He could have machines that could be run by horse, wind, or steam power, and with his family and hired help could gather up the soiled linen of a whole neighborhood, wash and iron it, return it to the owners at less expense than it would cost each separately.

Can you afford it? Can you afford to have your wife to work like a slave for you during 10 solid years out of the 30 that you expect yet to live together? Would any pecuniary sacrifice be too great that will enable you to add possibly 10 years or more to her life, and, selfish creature, 30 years more of comfort to your own. For it must be admitted that the sterner sex (and I am one of them) from the complaint they make suffer fully as much from the discomforts of washing day as they who do the work.

The ballot might be a good thing for woman, but a better thing in its immediate results, would be for her master to make out her mis-mission papers and forever set her free.

Now are we going to do it? Let us find out how they wash in the City laundries. Let us set our inventors to work, not to invent more washing machines (Heaven forbid) but to make practical the principles already learned, and eliminate from the ten thousand machines already in use a set of machinery that can be run by steam that will do the whole thing with the least possible manual labor. Club together and start some good honest family in your neighborhood into a living business, by furnishing them the outfit and assuring them of sufficient patronage to make it pay.

Girls, talk it up to the young men, and tell them, when they ask you to set the day, that they must first help solve the problem of doing away with Blue Monday. Will not the editor of THE HOUSEHOLD aid us, and invite everyone to speak out, if by doing so he can help along the cause?—S. G., Palermo, Ill.

Our correspondent is right in regard to the worse than drudgery of washing and ironing for a family. The labor is severe, and, in nine cases out of ten, does more to exhaust and break a woman down than all the rest of the household labor. We trust the day will soon come when co-operative laundries will be established in every neighborhood.—ED. HOUSEHOLD.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.—With all that has been said on the ventilation of school buildings, there is as yet not one country school house in a hundred—really not any—that can be properly ventilated, and whose temperature can be properly controlled. Further consideration for the health of the school is always purely accidental. In fact, the only thing ever done looking toward the hygiene interests of the school is to ventilate by a transom and by lowering the windows, which, if not positively objectionable, is, to say the least, a poor expedient.

The difficulties to be overcome in temperature are: First—to get an even temperature. Second—To get a uniform temperature. Third—To maintain that temperature at whatever degree of consistency required.

The general law for the distribution of heat applies as well to our school buildings, only in the latter there are no modifications. The law would be that temperature decreases as the distance from the stove increases, and is driven upward by the same law. It is in the shape of an inverted pyramid, with the stone for the apex. While the pupils occupying back seats feel the heavy air of that part of the room creeping over them, those near the stove are made equally uncomfortable. This evil will not be easily abated, and has been only aggravated by the transom and window ventilation, as the air air admitted swoops directly down in the frigid regions of the room where the poor little creatures are already shivering with cold, and those near the stove are but little better off than they were before.

Another producer of ill-health, disease, in all school rooms, one but little thought of and seldom mentioned, is a cold floor. In cold weather the floor does not attain the temperature of the room for several hours, for the reason that the space enclosed by the floor and foundation walls serve as a refrigerator in which the temperature of the previous night is preserved, though the day should be pleasant. The children complain of cold feet when we think there is no cause for it, and probably censure them for their restlessness. Cold feet probably cause more sickness than any and all other things combined. Cold feet and colds in the head are almost synonymous terms, and frequently lead to fatal results, always to an enfeebled mind by attacking the brain, and frequently to a weakened constitution. Certainly some effort should be made to remedy the evil. If there is no other way, a furnace should be put in to warm this reservoir and make the floor comfortable. From this furnace pipes could be extended at suitable distance along the base of the building, opening at intervals into pipes in the wall, thus an even and uniform temperature could be secured in the whole building. The only objection urged against this would be the expense, but that is a false one, as could be the cost, but ardize the true economy that would jeopardize health or retard the intellectual development of the school for a paltry consideration.—KANSAS TEACHER.

We are very glad to bring this subject before THE HOUSEHOLD in the above excellent article. There is much for food for thought in it for all who have aught to do with the welfare of children. Another article will be given next week. Meanwhile we hope this will be well digested.—ED. HOUSEHOLD.

HE RISES IN DEFENSE.—You don't know how much entertainment has been furnished by the BLADE to the members of our fraternity at this point, by the perusal of the spirited articles contained therein pertaining to the merits and demerits of "Old Bachelor" in general. Of course we feel decidedly sheepish when some old maid picks us up in a bunch, throws us down, sits down on us "figuratively speaking" says we are dirty, and other things which old maids are supposed to be authority on, but, after reading the article and getting our breath, we can't repress a smile of satisfaction in knowing that circumstances compel that aforesaid O. M. to shoot at long range, and we feel a sense of security in knowing that we have her at a disadvantage, that she has no legal claim on our attention and that she lacks the power of compelling us to believe all she says about us.

This County is noted for its old maids and bachelors, and speaking of bachelors in particular, I must say that I find them a good deal like the rest of mankind with the exception that there is a slight difference in their favor, when a careful comparison is made between married and unmarried men on the following points, viz: Honesty, Industry, Etiquet, Friendship, Good Judgment, Peaceful Disposition, Good Looks, Education and General Intelligence.

But seriously speaking, what is the difference between a married man and a bachelor? Ask any little boy or girl and they will tell you that one is married and the other is not. Now the greatest philosopher and sage the world has ever known could not give a more lucid or correct answer to this question. Some people, and they are generally women, will go to work and write us a lecture on the depravity of unmarried men. They will find a great deal of fault with mankind in general and they think, no doubt, that they are producing unanswerable argument in favor of early marriages. I am not a hopelessly crusty old bach but I believe in taking a rational view of things. The causes which prevent some marrying until late in life and others from ever marrying are so numerous and varied as the causes which prevent all men from becoming shoemakers and carpenters. Although I admit that the main reason why all men do not marry is the same as the reason why all men are not bankers, they have not got the money they think necessary to a successful start in married life, and they are charitable and sensible enough not to ask a woman they think anything of to share with them a life of poverty and privations.

For every bachelor I know I can point out two or three young men married while young, without experience in business or any idea of the cares and responsibilities of married life, who are now struggling along in poverty, working at a disadvantage because they have no capital, with a poor hard working girl of a wife and two or three children sharing his poverty and disappointment, with none of the advantages and pleasures enjoyed by young unmarried people. Not only this, but we hardly pick up a paper without reading of two or three divorce cases. Now let those who croak about old baches comforting themselves with this assurance, there is not one in 10 who intends to die single. I am one myself, but my nature has never been aroused by disappointed love, nor any such nonsense. The older I grow the more I see to admire in some old maids, and I look forward hopefully to the time when I shall fall in love with one and she with me. Until then I rise in defense of bachelors.—PATRICK FLYNN, Unique, Ia.

SHOULD WOMEN VOTE?—"Ned" and "Ezekiel" having spoken with much zeal, but not according to knowledge; they surprise me with their egotism and audacity. I am decidedly in favor of justice and equality to every citizen, male and female; believe the spirit of republicanism demands it; besides, being born and educated under a government which boasts of universal suffrage, liberty and equality, while one-half of her citizens are disfranchised, because they are not men. "Ned" says two-thirds of the pure and virtuous women would not vote if they could. He has no means of knowing, as they never had an opportunity of deciding this vexed question for themselves. I agree with him, some women do not care to vote. Is that any reason why those who do want to should be deprived of the privilege? I can name several classes that do not desire it, viz: the slaves of fashion, novel readers, uneducated women, and others who are so engrossed in household cares, are indifferent upon any subject which requires the least thought or reflection. "Ned" has been reading the Bible, and has found a passage which he supposes will completely silence every one who has the temerity to advocate a cause not sanctioned by Scripture. We do not claim to be an adept in expounding or "explaining away" the scriptures; but we doubt not those admonitions were directed to certain churches whose turbulent customs and manners interfered with divine worship. But his argument is entirely foreign to the subject under consideration, neither is it compatible with the customs and manners of the Nineteenth Century. Another says, "Take woman from the pure atmosphere of home to the contaminating influence of political conventions, and we have retrograded in political economy." But what say you of the pure atmosphere of home, when the drunken husband and father comes staggering home with the fumes of vile liquor obtained at the saloon or club-room? Does he not degrade and make home the most loathsome place on earth? This is not an isolated case, but can be seen in any community where whisky is sold. Such men are the most bitter opposers of woman suffrage, and when it comes to granting licenses, the most interested part of the community have no voice in the matter. We are taxed without representation, held amenable to the law, which we have no voice in enacting; yet are told we have no cause for complaint. Did our fathers have any reason to rebel against Great Britain for the same cause? But, you say, they were men—it alters the case. We are reminded that taking part in politics is out of our sphere. What right has any man to map out the diameter and circumference of our spheres and not allow us to step over the line, while they grant all of the privileges of American citizens to ignorant negros. We have no patience with those women who speak disrespectfully of their own sex, in order that they may please and flatter the other sex. They will find they are mistaken. Men invariably respect those women who know they have rights which they dare express without fear or favor, and man would not insult or treat any woman with disrespect at the ballot-box, if they were placed on an equality before the law.—REFORMER.

HOT WORDS AND MARTYRDOM.—We live in Carson Valley, Nevada, thousands of miles from where the BLADE is issued, so we do not take it for general news; we get it 10 days sooner in our Pacific Coast papers. But we have been taking the BLADE for the last four years for its superior "HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT," and our scrap-book shows we have made a gleaning from it, which is useful for the improvement of home duties and happiness. I much approve of this way of exchanging of experience and thoughts. It is the best way of mingling of our cares and difficulties in domestic life and to brighten it.

I wish to say a few words in regard to "B's" answer to "Laura," in the BLADE issue of Jan. 19. He or she thinks that "Laura" has an unfortunate opinion of Ingersoll's writings, I suppose because she did not form the same opinion he did? He says not on account of his belief advanced, but his rough and hot words, "which kind of literature he is afraid will be infurious to the writer and reader," but I judge from the way he selects his contrasts from the Bible only; that Ingersoll's belief is his objection, I dare say he can read the other side of the question in as "hot and rough" words and not "get hot in the face," "or feel that tingling sensation in his fingers." It appears that it had a tendency to "excite his combativeness" instead of his "candid reasonings" it had a more evil tendency with him than "Laura." I would recommend him to buy a little more of the "clear writings," viz., "Ingersoll's Discussion with Judge Black" in *North American Review*, as he likes to read Ingersoll, and thinks "it will do a *strong* Christian mind good," and let him judge which of the two contestants' writings is most calculated to excite combativeness.

I could not see what he wished to accomplish by the complaint of the price of his writings; it seems as if he wished more of it for his money. Ingersoll uses as few words in his writings as will convey his ideas, which is good. He is always to the front. His words are "hot" to those who do not like them any better than "B" does; but there are many "weak" and "impaired" minds (?) who think they are the reverse, and in whom it does not excite such sensations as it does in "B." There are many who think "Nasby" has been writing "hot" and "rough" words which excites combativeness, because he exposes fraud, opposes tyranny, and speaks the truth.

I would say to "Laura" that I think just as she does, and I do not think my mind is impaired, because I do not think as "B" does. He is not able to see martyrs of humanity outside the Bible, when there have been many in all nations and ages, even in our own time. Let him look at "Copernicus," "Bruno," "Socrates," "Galileo" and "Servetus." Were they Christians? Did they do nothing for humanity? Let us practice as much Christianity as we can, and less prejudice.—A. J. S., Parsons, Nevada.

MEMORIES OF THE PAST.—In looking over a box (which I have dubbed "My Treasure Box"), containing relics of bygone days, I find that nearly every article within it, has a history connected with it.

It is only catalog of Sunday School Library books that I hold in my hand, but as I turn over the leaves one by one, and gaze on the familiar titles, I am carried back in memory to a glad, happy year, during which I attended that Sabbath School and read the choice books of its Library.

My nearest friend and companion, during that golden year, was a bright merry, attractive girl, whom I will call Maggie Stanton. She was only 14, and I was four years her senior; but she was much taller and larger every way than I, and a stranger guessing at her age, would not have thought of putting it less than 18.

We lived close by each other, and together we attended Sunday school, night meeting, mite society, etc., and what one of us did, the other generally did also; for instance: We two belonged to a class of young girls, taught by an elderly lady. For some reason I took a great dislike to her and left her class, joining the young ladies' Bible class, whereupon Maggie also left, and followed me into the Bible class.

Soon after, that teacher removed from the place, and her class was then left without a regular teacher.

Sometimes the Superintendent asked me to teach it, as I was several years older than the rest of the girls which formed it.

But more frequently it was taught by a young lady about three years my senior, whom I will call Susie Lawrence. She was my dearest friend, dearer even than Maggie, but she lived some distance from me, so that I seldom saw her except Sundays.

Whenever the Superintendent came over to the Bible class to ask Susie to teach that class of young girls, she would, on rising to comply, beckon me to go with her, which I always did, for I loved dearly to be by her side, wherever she was, and Maggie invariably rose and followed us to the other class. Susie had three brothers, the eldest of whom was away at work; the other two were at home and attended Sunday School. The younger of these waited on me, the elder on Maggie. Many are the merry, joyous scenes which are presented to my mind's eye, as I look back over that bright, happy year, and I cannot but consider it the red letter year of my life. All is changed now. Maggie is miles away. I have not seen her in years, probably never shall see her again. Susie is not so far away, but I seldom see her. And I am left alone.—VIAMEAD.

HOW TO WASH.—In THE HOUSEHOLD department of the BLADE of December 29 I notice the question, "How can clothes be washed the easiest and best?" I find that it is a great saving of labor not to boil or scald the clothes. My way is to make a warm suds, and rub the cleanest clothes first, then put them into a tub of clean warm water, putting the next cleanest ones into the first tub. Rub, from the second tub, lightly with the hands, to get the dirty suds out, and then put them into another cold or warm water, made slightly soapy, and blue also if one chooses. I do not blue mine, except in the starch. For sheets, pillow slips, towels, handkerchiefs, napkins, and many other articles, rubbing through one suds is sufficient. Shirts, undershirts and drawers sometimes (nearly always) need to be rubbed through two waters, then rinse in the warm water as I said before.

A good deal of time and labor can be saved by using judgment about the rubbing. It is well to look for the soiled spots and rub soap on them when rubbing the garment generally. I find that my clothes are as white and smell as sweet as when I used the boiler. When clothes are unusually dirty (as after traveling) they may be wet in warm water, soap rubbed on the dirty places, and rolled up as for ironing, and soak either over night or while the cleaner part of the washing is being done. Enough water can be warmed in the teakettle and one other kettle for the whole washing for an ordinary family, and there is no lifting of boilers and heavy pails of water. Flannels I wash in suds as hot as can be used comfortably and rinse in hot water.

As to washing machines, I have the "Little Washer," which fits in the tub, and, as it does not weigh very much, is easily put in and taken out. I have used one for seven years, and it is not worn out yet. But I do not expect to get collars and the bottoms of skirts and shirts clean, without a liberal application of strength with the help of a washboard. When water is scarce, the colored clothes can be washed in the second water used for the white clothes. Hoping that this will not fall into the waste basket, but that it may relieve one or more women from the thraldom of "boiling suds" and steam.—S. G. G., Biscayne, Florida.

NOT AN OLD BACH.—You will very soon find out that, I am not an old "Bach," when you hear what I have to say. This is my first writing to THE HOUSEHOLD. I have thought often about writing, but knew it would be the same old story, and I had better stay at home and do my work and take care of my children, than to be writing about woman's rights. But I will say something; I cannot keep still any longer.

I do think if a woman would stick up for her rights she would have something better than "sorghum molasses for the children to lick off of their bread," as the lady says. There is no need of their sitting on the doorstep. If the husband is any kind of a man at all, he will see that there is some one to take care of them while he and his wife go and vote.

As for a "woman going to vote, with a hole in her stocking, she may neglect to darn them, but that is nothing by the side of what a man will neglect. He will go away and stay a day or two and never see that his wife has a stick of wood to burn. Is that neglect? Oh, no! some would say, he forgot. A woman has double the responsibility resting upon her than a man has, and still she is not his equal. There are hundreds of women today that are competent to fill places that are filled with men, and I do not doubt but what Joe's mother could fill his place if it only required brains and thinking. And as for "Bach" it is not the charms that makes the man. We will say he is not an exception but one of his kind. We have plenty of them.—VELDA, Perrysville, Ohio.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS.—I have become very much interested in THE HOUSEHOLD as I read the different articles from the many contributors. I see inquiries that I often wish to answer, and that I would like to see others answer. An unfailing preventive for keeping moths from furs is to take a whisky cask to put them up in and I think you will be much pleased with the result, as it is not necessary to expose them to the air and light, as is the case in using other preventions. If "M. J. H." should try this remedy I should be much pleased to hear the result.

A pretty name for those little twin boys would be Roy and Ray, if "B. D. Suiter" desires short names, and they cannot be nick-named.

I think that the ladies that are interested in knitting would find it beneficial to write to the Nanotuck Silk Company, Florence, Mass. By sending a three cent stamp you will receive a book of directions for knitting all kinds of lace, mittens, ladies', gents' and children's hose, also samples of knitting and etching silk. I am sure you will be pleased with them, besides we can dispense with directions for knitting different articles in your valued columns, and devote it to other matters of interest.

I will send you a recipe in my next communication for old time ginger bread, such as used to be sold on "training days" years ago. It is very nice, but I fear I have wearied your patience, so will close. Any advice the kind sisters can give me will be thankfully received, as I am a young housekeeper and am often weary and perplexed by the multiplied cares of a farmer's wife. My baby is crying and I must bid you good night.—PRAIRIE FLOWER.

ANOTHER OLD MAID.—Well Nomad, I should like very much to sit down to supper with you, because it is very lonesome to eat all alone, isn't it? I am trying to go to school and back so I know how it is myself. Please don't judge everyone by that lady you wrote about, because if you should come to my house when I am living on a ranch I could give you a good meal anyway. I know that some "bach's" shanties are as neat as a good many houses kept by women, and then again some of them are not. But when you get ready to select an old maid or schoolmarm just come to Colorado Springs. They are very plentiful here; in fact too much so.

Yes, "Nannie," I fully agree with you on the tobacco question. I don't believe that men ought to use it, but if they do I don't believe in scolding and finding fault with them all the time. If it does them any good let them have it to their heart's content. Well I must close, hoping that there will be room for me, as I am a school girl and this is my first attempt to enter the magical door of THE HOUSEHOLD.—NELLIE, Colorado Springs, Col.

AN OFFER.—I come with an offer to the readers of the HOUSEHOLD. Is there a maiden or widow lady that would like to come to Colorado to live; to a good, moral, kind and industrious person I would gladly give a home for the remainder of their lives. I mention this for every one that comes here is on the "marry" as we term it. My husband being a stock man I am necessarily alone most of the time. I minister with my own hands to the wants of myself and husband and would expect the person to help as long as there was anything to do; if this should meet the eye of anyone that is homeless they can address me direct.

Have the readers of the HOUSEHOLD ever seen the beautiful vine of the wild cucumber? Here where it grows so common we think it lovely. I would send the seeds to all who will send me silk pieces for log cabin quilts in return. Plant in clusters very early in Spring.—MRS. C. MATTHEW BROWNE, Arvado, Jefferson County, Col.

FROM IDAHO.—Since my address appeared in THE HOUSEHOLD of Dec. 29th, I have received so many inquiries about Idaho that it is impossible to answer all at lenghth. If those who desire information will leave space after each question, I will fill up said space with proper answers and re-mail their letters in the stamped and superscribed envelopes which all, of course, enclose. A line or two, at most, is sufficient after each question. I have no more specimens which will withstand rough handling in the mail, except samples of the bread baked by an Idaho bachelor. I hope, however, that the demand for that article will not be as great as it is for every other curiosity, as flour costs $30 a barrel.—C. E. HIBBS, Genessee, North Idaho.

RECIPES.—*Fruit Cake.*—One cup butter, 1½ cups sugar, 1 cup molasses, 4 eggs, ½ lb raisins, ½ lb currants, ¼ lb citron, 3½ cups flour, ½ cup sour milk, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves and allspice.

Delicate Cake.—One cup sugar and 3 tablespoonfuls of butter, beaten to a cream, ½ cup sweet milk, whites of 2 eggs, beaten to a froth, 1½ cups flour, 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder; flavor to taste.

Pork Pudding.—One cup fat pork, chopped fine, 1 cup molasses, 1 cup chopped raisins, 1 egg, 1 cup sour milk, a large teaspoonful of soda, flour to make a batter as for fruit cake; steam 1½ hours; serve with wine sauce.—FLORENCE.

Canned Peach Dessert.—Cut some round slices off some milk rolls, remove the crust, dip in a little sugar and milk and fry a pale yellow in butter; take a can of canned, peaches, turn out the juice into a saucepan, add a little sugar and a glass of white wine; boil it up and put in the peaches; simmer a few moments; drain them, and place half a peach, hollow side uppermost, on each piece of bread. Put a piece of currant jelly in the cavity of each piece, pour the syrup round, and serve. We think slices of cake made hot would be even nicer.

OSCAR L. BALDWIN.

His Prison Garb and Duties.

Oscar L. Baldwin, the defaulting cashier of the Mechanics' National Bank, of Newark, who is now a convict in the State Prison at Trenton, under a sentence of 15 years, was employed last week as gate-keeper. His position is at the great iron gates at the west end of the prison, through which pass the teams that take the supplies to the place or carry the finished work of the prisoners away. The gates open directly upon the street. Baldwin is dressed in the prison garb, which consists of cloth, the right half being deep blue and the left half red, the sleeves being of alternating stripes of plush white and brown. He was clean shaven, and his hair was cropped close. There is a large scale near the keeper's lodge, and Baldwin, in a clerical capacity, assists in the weighing. Keeper Laverty said that when Baldwin was taken to the prison he requested that no one except his relatives should be allowed to see him. Since his imprisonment, however, he has had several visitors, including his brother-in-law, his counsel and a Mr. Dodd. On Thursday his brother Theodore, who is now under bail, called with the prisoner's wife and spent some time with him, and on Tuesday George A. Halsey, one of the Directors of the bank, and State Sen. Stainsby visited him upon matters of business connected with the settlement of the bank's affairs.

Keeper Laverty has stated that he would not place Baldwin in the shops, as there is no room and he would make a poor mechanic. His services, would, however, be worth 50 cents a day as a clerk. Baldwin rooms with Leeds, the clerk of Leggett, the defaulting controller of Elizabeth, while Hedden, the defaulting cashier of the First National Bank of Newark, rooms with Leggett.

THE END OF THE CRANK.

Brother Gardner Gives Expression to Opinions on a Current Topic.

Detroit Free Press.

"Am dar a crank present in de hall to-night?" softly asked Brother Gardner, as the meeting opened.

Not a voice answered.

"Have any of you seen a crank around town dis last week?" continued the President.

No one had, or at least no one admitted it.

"Two weeks ago de kentry was full of 'em, you could find em on de street kyar, at de depot, aroun' de hotels, an' eben in church. All of a sudden you kan't skeer up a single crank. De bizness has got to be unhealthy. De plea of insanity doan go down with the jury as slick as it did. De time when one man kin put a knife into anoder an' make de jury believe he was bo'n dat way and couldn't help it has 'bout expired. The crank mus' go. He mus' quit shootin', stabbin, stealin', and bein' heard of in de land. When de crank fust brought for'd de ideah dat de Deity was behind him an' urged him on it was sunthin' new an' novel, but dat ideah am played out wid de rest.

"My fren's let de cantankerous bizness alone. Doan' call stealin' by any odder name. If your hands itch fur money dat belongs to some one else, take it an' skip, and when de law overhauls you doan' sot up de plea dat an angel from heaven urged you on. Legal farces have had deir day in dis kentry. Insanity, kleptomania, sudden emotion, drunkenness, an' loss o' memory will be poo' excuses before fucher juries."

A Faithful Boy.

Chamber's Journal.

I keep a shop and sell fancy goods. A gentleman came in to buy something. It was early and my little boy and I were alone in the house at the time. The gentleman gave me a sovereign, and I had to go up-stairs to my cash box. Before doing so I went into the room next to the shop and said to the boy, "Watch the gentleman, that he don't steal anything," and I put him on the counter. As soon as I returned, he sang out, "Pa, he didn't steal anything; I watched him." You may imagine what a position I was in.

How to Secure Health.

It is strange any one will suffer from derangements brought on by impure blood, when SCOVILL'S SARSAPARILLA AND STILLINGIA or BLOOD AND LIVER SYRUP will restore health to the physical organization. It is a strengthening syrup, pleasant to take, and the BEST BLOOD PURIFIER ever discovered, curing Scrofula, Syphilitic disorders, Weakness of the Kidneys, Erysipelas, Malaria, Nervous disorders, Debility, Bilious complaints and Diseases of the Blood, Liver, Kidneys, Stomach, Skin, etc.

Our Young Folks.

GRANDMAMMA'S VALENTINE.

Two little birdies after one fly?
Wonder if maybe they mean you and I—
Will-Boy and Jim?
Two little b'udders, that you can see;
And if one of 'em's you, and the other is me,
Wonder who's *him?*

Butterflies is such ex-culiar things!
Nothing at all but just two little wings.
Guess they must be
Quick winkie-thinkies! Wonder if this
Isn't a think, or a dear flying kiss,
From G'anmie to we?

S'pose we can catch it? And then if we do,
Is one half for I and the other for you?
Oh—s'pose you just *look!*
A fly doesn't want to be tored in two,
And a kiss is as good when you *know* it has flew,
As if it was took!

—*Mrs. D. A. Whitney, in February Wide-Awake.*

ROBERT HOUDIN IN ALGERIA.

In the August number of the *Museum*, we related some of the tricks of Robert Houdin, the great French magician, who was sent by the Government of France to Algeria, to perform before the wild Arabs, in order to impress them with a belief in the supernatural powers of the French. Some more of his experiences may prove interesting to our readers.

One of the wild Arab chiefs, after witnessing his performances at Algiers, had invited Robert Houdin and his wife to visit him at his village in the interior. After a long and rather dangerous journey, they reached the house of the chief, whose name was Bou-Allem. The kind of people they found may be inferred, when he says that his host drew out from the dish a bone with meat hanging to it, and after tearing off some pieces with his nails, offered them to Madam Houdin.

"After dinner," he says, "we proceeded to another room, and, on the road were joined by a young Arab whom Bou-Allem had sent for. This man had been for a long time servant at Algiers, and spoke French excellently; hence he would serve as our interpreter.

"We entered a small room very elegantly decorated, in which were two divans.

"'This,' our host said, 'is reserved for guests of distinction; you can go to bed when you like, but if you are tired, I would ask your leave to present to you several chief men of my tribe, who, having heard of you, wish to see you.'

"'Let them come in,' I said, after consulting Madame Houdin; 'we will receive them with pleasure.'

"The interpreter went out, and soon brought in a dozen old men, among whom were a Marabout and several talebs, whom the bash-aga appeared to hold in great deference.

"They sat down in a circle on carpets and kept up a very lively conversation about my performances at Algiers. This learned society discussed the probability of the marvels related by the chief of the tribe; who took great pleasure in depicting his impressions and those of his co-religionists at the sight of the *miracles* I had performed.

"Each lent an attentive ear to these stories, and regarded me with a species of veneration; the Marabout alone displayed a degree of skepticism, and asserted that the spectators had been duped by what he called a vision.

"Jealous of my reputation as a French sorcerer, I thought I must perform before the unbeliever a few tricks as a specimen of my late performance. I had the pleasure of astounding my audience, but the Marabout continued to offer me a systematic opposition, by which his neighbors were visibly annoyed; the poor fellow did not suspect, though, what I had in store for him.

"My antagonist wore in his sash a watch, the chain of which hung outside.

"I believe I have already mentioned a certain talent I possess of filching a watch, a pin, a pocketbook, etc., with a skill by which several of my friends have been victimized.

"I was fortunately born with an honest and upright heart, or this peculiar talent might have led me too far. When I felt inclined for a joke of this nature, I turned it to profit in a conjuring trick, or waited till my friend took leave of me, and then recalled him; 'Stay' I would say, handing him the stolen article, 'let this serve as a lesson to put you on your guard against persons less honest than myself.'

"But to return to our Marabout. I had stolen his watch as I passed near him and slipped into its place a five-franc piece.

"To prevent his detecting it, and while waiting till I could profit by my larceny, I improvised a trick. After juggling away Bou-Allem's rosary, I made it pass into one of the numerous slippers left at door by the guests; this shoe was next found to be full of coins, and to end this little scene comically, I made five-france pieces come out of the noses of the spectators. They took such pleasure in this trick that I fancied I should never terminate it. 'Douros! douros!' they shouted, as they twitched their noses. I willingly acceded to their request, and the *douros* issued at command.

"The delight was so great that several Arabs rolled on the ground; this coarsely expressed joy on the part of Mohammedans was worth frenzied applause to me.

"I pretended to keep aloft from the Marabout, who, as I expected, remained serious and impassive.

"When calm was restored, my rival began speaking hurriedly to his neighbors, as if striving to dispel their illusions, and, not succeeding, he addressed me through the interpreter.

"'You will not deceive me in that way, he said, with a crafty look.

"'Why so?'

"'Because I don't believe in your power.'

"'Ah, indeed! Well, then, if you do not believe in my power, I will compel you to believe in my skill.'

"'Neither in one nor the other.'

"I was at this moment the whole length of the room from the Marabout.

"'Stay,' I said to him; 'you see this five-franc piece.'

"'Yes.'

"'Close your hand firmly, for the piece will go into it in spite of yourself.'

"'I am ready,' the Arab said, in an incredulous voice, as he held out his tightly closed fist.

"I took the piece at the end of my fingers, so that the assembly might all see it, then, feigning to throw it at the Marabout, it disappeared at the word 'Pass!'

"My man opened his hand, and, finding nothing in it, shrugged his shoulders, as if to say, 'You see, I told you so.'

"I was well aware the piece was not there, but it was important to draw the Marabout's attention momentarily from the sash, and for this purpose I employed the feint.

"'That does not surprise me,' I replied, 'for I threw the piece with such strength that it went right through your hand, and has fallen into your sash. Being afraid I might break your watch by the blow, I called it to me; here it is!' And I showed him the watch in my hand.

"The Marabout quickly put his hand in his waist belt, to assure himself of the truth, and was quite supefied at finding the five-franc piece.

"The spectators were astounded. Some among them began telling their beads with a viviacity evidencing a certain agitation of mind; but the Marabout frowned without saying a word, and I saw he was spelling over some evil design.

"'I now believe in your supernatural power,' he said; 'you are a real sorcerer; hence, I hope you will not fear to repeat here a trick you performed in your theater;' and offering me two pistols he held concealed beneath his burnous, he added, 'Come, choose one of these pistols; we will load it, and I will fire at you. You have nothing to fear, as you can ward off blows.'

"I confess I was for a moment staggered; I sought a subterfuge and found none. All eyes were fixed upon me, and a reply was anxiously awaited.

"The Marabout was triumphant.

"Bou-Allem, being aware that my tricks were only the result of skill, was angry that his guest should be so pestered; hence he began reproaching the Marabout. I stopped him, however, for an idea occurred to me which would save me from dilemma, at least temporarily; then addressing my adversary:

"'You are aware,' I said, with assurance, 'that I require a talisman in order to be invulnerable, and, fortunately, I have left mine at Algiers.'

"The Marabout began laughing with an incredulous air.

"'Still,' I continued, 'I can do without the talisman, and defy your weapon. To-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, I will allow you to fire at me in the presence of these Arabs, who were witnesses of your challenge.

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers, and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Communications should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Pruning Orchards.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

As I was looking over a back number of the BLADE of March 17, 1881, I saw information desired by W. Stick on pruning apple orchards. Mr. Wilton replies by saying that he regards that period when trees are in full bloom as the best time to do pruning, as at that time there is a full flow of sap which moves readily, accelerates the process of healing, and about there he stops. As far as it goes the advice of Mr. W. is quite well enough, but by far too meagre to convey to the general inquirer anything like a comprehensive idea of the process of pruning in its more substantial and legitimate sense. Pruning and grafting orchards is the work that I have followed exclusively for quite a number of years. I prune at any and all times with good results, the principle requisite in my opinion being to do a good job, and that when needed. To prune orchards well requires much practice, as well as theoretical knowledge. Let it be the aim of the operator to do his best in every instance. Strive, hard to give your orchard the appearance of having passed through the hands of a good and careful mechanic which not only satisfies the requirements of the orchard but invites and calls forth the acknowledgment of an appreciative public. The advantages of pruning trees while young are too numerous and apparent to need the aid of discussion. The orchardist that will prune annually and judiciously will be many times paid for his labor. Take from the tree all unnecessary and superfluous wood as readily and with as much energy and persistence as a good gardener would destroy the weeds found in his garden. In this the adage is well verified that a stitch in time saves nine. Keep all the trees in the orchard as near a uniform hight from the ground as possible. By beginning with trees while young, almost any desired hight and form may be secured. Avoid running into either extreme. Be careful to get your trees neither too high or too low, raise the top just high enough to be able to work under them with horses without injuring the branches, but no higher; balance the tree evenly and nicely from the bottom. This part of the work, like all the rest, should not be done at a haphazard venture, but merits your due and careful consideration. Thin the top out evenly and with much care, endeavoring as near as possible to have just wood enough and none to spare when the job is finished; make the top thin enough to give a free circulation of air and light to every branch and twig; avoid taking out large limbs, leaving holes here and there through the tree; never cut the main center limbs out of a tree, leaving it open like an inverted umbrella, which is also foreign to the dictates of nature, unworkmanlike, and injurious to the tree. In thinning a top of a tree, it will be found necessary to go to the very ends of nearly or all of the branches, cutting out small twigs where found so numerous as to shade each other. This, of course, takes time; but it pays well, and the work is never finished without it; take away all dead wood, if there be any; where two branches cross or interfere, one should in every instance be removed; if two branches are found in too close proximity in a parallel line, one should be taken away; same practice cutting from all the main branches all the small twigs or spurs they ever had. I believe this to be a wrong for various reasons. If all are cut away an excessive growth of suckers or matter sprouts is invited, besides many varieties produce the principal bulk of their fruit by means of those short spurs that are found growing the entire length of the branches. I believe them to have been placed there by a wise provision of Nature. One think is certain, if a tree once be deprived of them it can never reproduce them. Don't leave stubs an inch or two long, but cut *all* limbs close to the parent stock from which they grow, as they then at once begin the process of healing. This I consider a very important point in pruning, as the future health of the trees are herein affected either for good or evil. Large limbs should be sawed a foot or more from the tree first, then off close up. There is less danger of splitting down the bark and making a bad, unsightly wound, than by sustaining the whole limb while first sawing close to the tree. As no two trees are exactly alike, no precise rule can be given; therefore common sense and good judgment persistently applied must be the principal director. By *all* means have good tools, and always keep them in good order. Pruning is more easily and better done with the aid of a good pruning shear.—H. C. HILLS, Romeo, Mich.

Success with Poultry.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

I am not in the habit of writing for the press but I believe it to be my duty to make known my success in raising poultry that others may benefit thereby. The Fall of 1880 I met Mr. J. M. Bain who is one of the most extensive raisers and shippers of eggs and poultry in Ohio, at our fair at Zanesville. In the course of conversation I remarked that I would like very much to have an incubator and raise chickens for the market, but I was a poor woman and had not the means to pay $75 or $100 for one. Mr. Bain told me he would send me directions for making the kind of incubator he used, which he made himself and was very good and very cheap. The next week I received the directions. I got an incubator made that holds 250 eggs and it only cost me $4.65. I hatched in December 1880, 277 chickens and raised 223 of them until they were two months old when I sold them at home for 50 cents each. In January 1881, I raised 218 chickens which I shipped to New York in April and after paying all expenses for shipping and selling them I had $249.65 left or $1.14 for each chicken. Young chickens are very high in the East in March, April and May. Before I got any more hatched I was taken sick and was not able to attend to my incubator. I have now 220 chickens which I will ship to New York in about a month and my incubator full of eggs which will soon be out. I do not keep a hen as I have not room, but buy my eggs. An incubator requires but little attention, is easily managed and I do no not know what I would have done had I not happened on this business as my health was failing me sewing. How many poor women, and men too, might relieve their wants by raising poultry if they only knew how. Any person by writing to J. M. Bain, New Concord, Ohio, (sending stamps) can get directions for making an incubator, as Mr. Bain told me he would gladly assist any person who was not able to buy one by sending their directions.

MRS. W. G.

Information Furnished.

LICE ON CATTLE AND HORSES.—Having noticed in your last week's issue a request from some one in Kansas, for a remedy for lice on cattle, I will mention the following, which I know to be effectual: Take about three parts lard to one sulphur and mix, letting the lard get nicely warm before putting in the sulphur. Apply this to the parts affected and the lice will soon disappear.—E. W. W., Maysville, Mo.

In reply to J. E. Gilbert, Marion County, Kan.: To kill lice on cattle or horses get Indian cockle at the rate of one-half pound for three head, crack the kernels and steep two hours (do not boil), then add enough water to give the animal a thorough soaking, using a cloth or sponge, and apply to the parts affected. It will not hurt the animals or cause the hair to come out, and there is no danger of poisoning, but it is death to the lice. Try it. It can be procured at any drug store.—M. H. PENN, Wolcott, Wayne County, N. Y.

Information Wanted.

WHAT is It?—My chickens have commenced dying off with a disease I have never seen described in any paper; can some one tell me what it is and a remedy? I have a valuable lot of fowls and should feel very bad to lose them. The symptoms are these: They first begin to mope around then their heads swell, eyes swell shut, and a canker appears in and around the mouth and throat offensive to the smell. The throat finally fills with the canker and they choke to death. Will some one please answer soon and oblige.—A FARMER, Adair, Iowa.

I have some chickens that were hatched late and are about half grown, that have a peculiar disease. They get blind in one eye, or sometimes both, and the eye swells up to three or four times its natural size, and seems to turn to pus. It also affects their throat and finally kills them. Can you tell what it is and give a remedy? Also a remedy for quinsy. If you can not, please submit to your readers and oblige.—A SUBSCRIBER.

SEEDING A YARD.—I am a constant reader of the BLADE, and would ask some of its readers if they could give me information in regard to seeding down a yard around a house that has just been built and the lot has been graded off? What kind of manure and what kind of grass seed is the best to use to get a quick sod formed?—W. M. M., Bradford, Pa.

PORTABLE FENCE.—Can some reader of the BLADE tell how to build a good portable fence? I do not want an expensive patent-right affair, but something substantial, and not too expensive, that will answer for general farm use. Such a fence is much needed by a great many farmers, where timber is getting scarce.—F. O. ALLEN, Ionia, Mich.

HOLSTEIN.—Will some of your many readers who know and have experience, give an account of the Holsteins. What is the average weight of the cows, and especially what kind of butter-makers are they?—A SUBSCRIBER.

A BAD WEED.—Will some of the readers of the BLADE tell me how to get rid of the weed called in common parlance Butter and Eggs. I know no other name for it. It is about to take one's yard, and a sure cure will be tried if given, with a vengeance.—N. P. CHENOWETA, Orange P. O., Ohio.

TO FEED FLAX.—Can you or any readers of the BLADE inform me with what result I can feed flax (not threshed) to cows?—F. P. S., Buffalo, Kan.

WANTS A CURE.—I have a horse that got very poor in flesh last Summer by hard work. He is not very old. I feed him good now and give him plenty of rest, but can not get him up to his former condition. Can you tell me what to give him in the shape of a medicine that would help to bring him up in good flesh again.—A. W. M., Newark, Neb.

Application of Liquid Manure.

The comparative advantages of applying fertilizers to land, in liquid form, or after the liquid has been taken up and made solid by absorbents, have not been fully settled by intelligent farmers generally. Liquid have the advantage of immediate action when applied; while, on the contrary, the soluble portions of solids must be first dissolved or washed out, requiring a considerable length of time. On the other hand, liquid manure can only be secured by more perfect and expensive buildings, and facilities for conveying it to the fields include pumps, tanks and sprinklers. In addition to these, care must be taken to prevent the inconvenience of freezing in winter.

On a large scale, and with complete tanks and appliances, the use of liquids may be attended with less labor in applying than if they were all first absorbed and then drawn out in solid form. With a good pump, and with the tank or tub not much higher than the cistern, a laborer will load a liquid ton, ready for drawing with less labor than he can throw a solid ton on a wagon with a fork. Through the sprinkler he spreads it with no other labor than driving the wagon across the field, and it is more evenly distributed and finely diffused than by any spreading with the fork and breaking with the harrow—in which it is scarcely equalled by Kemp's spreading cart, which pulverizes and scatters the manure with no labor to the driver. This manure spreader is the most perfect contrivance yet brought into use for making manure avaible by fine pulverization, and next to this is the fall spreading of manure and breaking it fine by suitable harrowing—the autumn and winter rains washing out the soluble parts into the soil.

Very few farmers have barns, stables, drains, cisterns, pumps and tubs for drawing, to enable them to use and spread liquid manure advantageously. Most of the stable floors are not tight, and the liquids leak through and are absorbed by the earth beneath, or are lost. On grain farms, where there is abundance of straw, enough may be used as litter to hold all or nearly all the liquid, and large quantities of this coarse or strawy manure, thrown into a heap and exposed to weather and rains, will rot down and may be drawn out in the following autumn. A question here occurs, which we suggest for investigation—namely, how much gain in the labor of drawing out solid manure is obtained by the spontaneous evaporation of the water of the liquid manure as it lies in such a heap?

When absorbents cannot be had the liquid may be saved by excavating a shallow cistern beneath the stable, making the rides so sloping that the water-lime mortar may be spread on the smooth face of the earth. In this way the expense will be moderate. The contents of this cistern are pumped out as needed and drawn to the fields in the water cart. There are two difficulties with this method. If the cement is not made with the sharpest and purest sand, and the best water lime, the frost of cold winters will crumble it. The fœtid odor from the liquid may interfere with the maintenance of the pure air which should always exist about every good farmer's buildings. To prevent these two difficulties is a subject for careful investigation which will be differently answered according to circumstances. A larger use of absorbents in cistern would defeat the attempt to carry off its contents by pumping.

The object of these remarks is to open the question for examination, and to invite the statements of those who have tried the different modes for securing and applying liviid manure under the most favorable circumstances. The three points to be taken specially into consideration are the comparative advantages of—1. Using the clear liquid with good and suitable appliances; 2. Employing an abundance of straw and other absorbents in the stable; and 3. Conveying the liquids by means of light floors and gutters to compost heaps of earth, peat or turf, placed under or near the barn.—*Country Gentleman.*

Shoulder Galls.

Galled shoulders are generally a consequence of an ill fitting collar. The use of a too large or a too small collar should be discontinued. It may be necessary to use pads, so arranged as to prevent any bearing or friction on the sore places; or some of the stuffing may be removed at the places where the collar hurts. It will be necessary to keep the parts of the harness that come in contact with the horse, as well as the skin of the horse, free from sweat and dirt, by the use of warm soapsuds, afterwards sponging off with cold water. This should be done every evening; but in Winter too much water should not be used. When thus cleaned, the parts should be wiped dry with a piece of soft cloth or chamois skin. Thereafter apply a portion of the following preparation: To about two pounds of unslacked lime add two quarts of cold water, and, after they have intimately combined, let it stand until settled; then pour off the clear liquid into a dish or pot (the lime is not to be used.) Add to the fluid a pint of linseed oil and two ounces of sugar of lead, previously dissolved in a gill of water. Stir well together, and when not used keep it corked. If the shoulders are raw or badly galled, the horse should be kept from work until fully recovered.—*Prairie Farmer.*

The Doctors Disagree

as to the best methods and remedies, for the cure of constipation and disordered liver and kidneys. But those that have used Kidney-Wort agree that it is by far the best medicine known. It excites to prompt, thorough and healthful action the torpid liver, the inactive kidneys, and the sluggish bowels, thus purifying the system, and by taking Kidney-Wort regulates the natural action of all the organs.—*New Opponent.*

The Sunday School.

Christ Stilling the Tempest.

LESSON 10, SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1882.

GOLDEN TEXT—He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.—Psa. 107:29.

LESSON TEXT.

Mark 4: 35-41.

35. And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow; and they awake and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

39. And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

41. And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

When the even was come (v. 35). And the evening will come. The longest day shall have its close. Whether it be a day of gladness or a day of sorrow, it will not last forever. Though we wish it would stay, or though its hours drag fearfully, its end will be here sooner or later, and then all of its trials or its joys will be in the past. If there is gladness in to-day, rejoice in it while you may; for the evening will come. If to-day's sorrow seems overwhelming, take comfort; for the evening will come. If a good work is before you as a possibility, do that work speedily; for the evening may come. No day of earth is eternal—but its results are.

They took him . . . in the ship . . . And there arose a great storm (vs. 36, 37). The presence of Jesus does not forbid storms and tempests to beat on his disciples. When we have trials and disappointments in the path of duty; when our best efforts seem to bring about least good; when we are misunderstood or misrepresented in our most unselfish endeavors for the welfare of others, or for the promotion of God's cause; when our very devotedness to Jesus brings us into troubles we might otherwise have avoided; when, moreover, we see the godliest men and saintliest women of our acquaintance suffering to a greater degree than those who are less worthy—we are inclined to wonder that such things should happen under such circumstances, or to such persons; but this is God's way with His best loved children. It is not freedom from danger, but safety in danger, that comes of a nearness to the Son of God and the Savior of men. "With Christ in the vessel," we may "smile at the storm;" but the storm is there, as well as the Savior. "Clouds and darkness" are yet about his throne; and it is the sun struggling through the clouds which gives the "rainbow" there.

They awake him and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? (v. 38.) What a question to ask of Jesus! And yet that is the very question that the disciples of Jesus are asking him, in their hearts, whenever the wind blows hard or the night is dark. If Jesus really did care for us; really cared for us as much as we supposed, and as much as he has said he did—would all this have happened to us? Should we have to live away up on the land? Should we be tied down as we are now? Should we be pinched and cramped after this fashion? Would all this sickness and all these trials have come to us and ours? Would there be so much of temptation, and so little strength to fight it? We want to have faith; we want to trust Jesus; but things do look pretty hard against our Savior just now! We don't like to put it in those very words; but that is about the way we feel about it away down in our heart of hearts; now isn't it?

Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? (v. 45.) The most unreasonable persons in the world are those who depend on their reason. And the hardest thing for a Christian to give a reason for is his lack of faith. If our Savior is to be trusted, why not trust him? If he is not to be depended on, what is the use of looking to him for help? The disciples on the sea probably reasoned for themselves that the storm was a severe one, and that their vessel was unable to resist its force; foundering was, therefore, their reasonable expectation. So they were sore afraid. But if they had reasoned a little farther, they would have seen that they had with them One who was able and willing to save them. A quiet word to him would secure a potent word from him, and they would be at ease. But no; their reason worked just far enough to frighten them, and there it stopped. Then they cried to Jesus, "Master, carest thou not that we perish?" But what did that cry mean? Did they believed that Jesus could save them, if only he wished to, what were they frightened about? If it was unreasonable to believe that he could give them help, why did they call on him in that reproachful way? That is just the way with the most of us. We have little reason and less faith; just enough of either to keep us in a worry. If we are the disciples of Jesus, it is the most reasonable thing in the world to believe that he will do all he can for us. If he is all that we think him to be, he can do anything that we need to have done for us. "Why," then, "are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?"

And they feared exceedingly (v. 41). How much easier it is for Christians to fear than to trust! When there is no word from Jesus, they are afraid they are forgotten. So soon as he gives signs of his power, they are afraid because of that power. If it is a hot and dry season, they are afraid everything will be parched to death. If it clouds over, they are afraid of being struck by lightning, or of being deluged by the rain. Prosperity or adversity, wealth or poverty, loneliness or society, has its peculiar dangers, as the doubting Christian insists on looking at it. Even the promises of Jesus bring fear rather than faith to the faint-hearted disciple of Jesus. So far, we are all of us successors of the apostles.

What manner of man is this (v. 41). That is a good question for all of us to ask. Who is this Jesus? What is his spirit? What are his purposes toward us? What is his power? How far can we trust him in our personal needs? What is your opinion of Jesus? What is he in his relations to you? If you are unable to answer these questions emphatically, let everything else drop until you can answer them.—*H. Clay Trumbull, in Sunday School Times.*

ANTI-POLYGAMY.

The Gentiles of Salt Lake Hold a Meeting and Adopt Resolutions.

SALT LAKE, Feb. 17.—At a meeting of prominent Gentiles of Utah last night the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

"WHEREAS, the Legislature of Utah, now in session in this city, adopted a concurrent resolution protesting against the passage by Congress of any bills disfranchising polygamists, but instead thereof praying Congress to send a committee to investigate the condition of things in Utah.

"*Resolved*, that said action is merely a polygamous bluff, a trick to gain time; that if it wins, these very men will claim it as a divine interposition in favor of polygamy, and use it to excite the masses of the Mormon people against the just authority of the National Government. That the fact that three-fourths of this Legislature are themselves practical polygamists exposes the condition of things in Utah, without the intervention of an investigating committee. That their action in this case betrays their fear that the disfranchising of polygamists will break up polygamy, and therefore indicates precisely what Congrers ought to do; that we most respectfully urge Congress not to be deterred from perfecting the good work in which it is engaged by the protests of men who are acknowledged polygamists themselves, and who adopt this deferential attitude only because their ordinary attitude of defiance will not apparently serve them in a mortal emergency. That there need be no fear of convulsion or disturbance if Congress now adopts effective measures to settle Utah affairs, but that if it does not the simplest duties of statesmanship will have been disregarded, as they have too long been, and the chance of peacefully settling Utah affairs will thus again have been placed in jeopardy."

Pension for Mrs. Garfield.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—In the House, Mr. Cox from the Committee to audit expense growing out of the death and burial of the late Pres. Garfield, reported a bill granting a pension of $5,000 a year to Mrs. Garfield, which was passed.

Never Tried It.

Burlington Hawkeye

Miss Kate Field believes in cremation? Yes, but then she never tried it herself. You take notice, the people who have been cremated once never want to try it over again.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.

The motion of Sen. Edmunds to take up the anti-polygamy bill out of its regular order was defeated by ayes, 21; noes, 29, and consideration of the calendar proceeded with.

Upon the expiration of the morning hour the pension arrears resolution came up. Sen. Edmunds again moved to proceed with the anti-polygamy bill, but said he would not ask a vote on the motion until the several Senators who had given notice of set speeches on other subjects to-day had been heard.

Unfinished business was then informally laid aside and Sen. Slater spoke upon the importance to the commerce of the Northwest of the improvement of the Columbia River.

Sen. Vance then made a speech on the tariff, in which he deplored the burdens of a high protective policy which fell with greatest weight upon the agricultural class, and did more to retard the growth and impair the wealth of the South than any other cause.

Upon the conclusion of Vance's remarks the pension arrears resolution came up and Call, who was awarded the floor upon it, deferred his remarks until to-morrow.

Sen. Edmunds then asken for a vote upon the motion to take up the anti-polygamy bill, and after an arrangement which entitles Call to retain the floor for a speech to-morrow on the pensions, the motion prevailed and the bill was taken up and laid over as the next business in order after Call shall have finished his remarks.

Sen. Edmunds said he hoped the Senate would be able to sit it out to-morrow, so as to dispose of the bill before adjournment.

Bills were introduced:

By Sen. Call—To exempt vessels of less than 25 tons in inland waters of the United States and not engaged in transportation of passengers, from inspection and license.

By Sen. McDill—To provide for greater economy in the expenditure of gas in buildings owned and used by the Government. It appropriates $100,000 for the purchase of suitable gas governors to regulate the flow and economize the consumption of the gas used in public buildings.

Sen. Morgan offered a resolution, which was referred, requesting the President to bring to the attention of the Government of Nicaragua the necessity of arranging by convention the final settlement of all unadjusted claims existing between the United States and Nicaraugua, and of the citizens of either of said Governments against other Governments. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. Willets, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill to prevent persons living in bigamy or polygamy from holding any civil office of trust or profit in any of the Territories of the United States, and from being delegates to Congress. House calendar.

Mr. Orth, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported adversely the resolution originally offered by Robinson (N. Y.) calling on the Attorney General for his opinion as to whether, if Jos. Warren Keifer, Alonzo B. Cornell or Charles Carroll should be arrested in the British Empire without having committed any crime, the English Government, by suspending the writ of habeas corpus, could lawfully detain him on indefinite suspicion without trial or without the right of the United States to demand his release.

Mr. Robinson (N. Y.) desired to debate the resolution, but the Speaker held the pending motion to lay upon the table was not debatable. The resolution was tabled by yeas, 117; nays, 103.

Mr. Orth also reported adversely a resolution requesting the President to communicate all correspondence with the British Government on file in the State Department in reference to the case of O'Connor, a citizen of the United States now imprisoned in Ireland. Mr. Orth stated the papers referred to had already been asked for by a previous resolution of the House.

The House refused to lay the resolution upon the table by 71 to 79.

Mr. Cox (N. Y.) thereupon offered an amendment requesting the President to obtain for D. H. O'Connor and other American citizens now imprisoned under the suspension of the habeas corpus by the British Government in Ireland without trial, conviction or sentence a fair, speedy trial, or a prompt release.

Mr. Pound (Wis.) raised the point of order that the resolution was not germane.

Mr. Kasson stated the House had no official knowledge as to the cases of "other persons." When that knowledge should have been obtained and it was found they were illegally detained in prison, he would be glad to take steps towards their release, but he did not think this mere buncombe amounted to anything.

The Speaker sustained the point of order, and the amendment was not received.

The discussion took betimes, a personal turn, Robinson, (N. Y.), in commenting upon the course of the American Congress taking some steps to release American citizens from Irish prisons, took occasion to make some reflections upon Robeson, of New Jersey, and that gentleman in turn applied to Robinson the epithet, "Demagogue," and intimated he had been mendacious in his statement.

The House was in great confusion throughout Robinson's speech.

Mr. Robinson finally yielded the floor to Orth to allow him to demand the previous question upon the resolution.

The confusion, all day very great upon the floor, was increased as Randall (Pa.), Cox (N. Y.), and Hooker (Miss.), rose with points of order against the Speaker awarding the floor to Orth, contending that as the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Affairs had not been agreed to, control of the measure had not passed out of the hands of Orth, and the Speaker should recognize the opponents of the committee recommendation. Some sharp words passed between Randall and Robinson.

The Speaker overruled the point of order, and held that as no one had claimed the floor to take control of the measure, he was bound to recognize the gentleman from Indiana (Orth) to demand the previous question.

From this decision Cox (N. Y.) appealed, but this appeal was tabled by yeas, 128; nays, 112.

Mr. Randall (Pa.) raised the point of order that as the resolution was not reported from the committee it was not in order.

The Speaker held the objection came too late.

Mr. Randall stated he wished to call the attention of the country to the fact that the resolution had come to the House, without the consent of the committee.

Mr. Cox (N. Y.) moved to recommit the resolution with instructions to the Committee to insert therein the names of Michael Hart, H. O. Mahoney, and John McEnry, and to add a clause requesting the President to demand of the British Government a prompt trial of those citizens, or their prompt release.

Mr. Orth stated he had no objections to that action, and the resolution was accordingly recommitted with instructions as stated.

The proposition for a night session was voted down and consideration of the apportionment bill resumed.

Mr. Oates (Ala.) gave notice of a motion he would make to recommit the bill with instructions to the Committee to report a bill fixing the number of Representatives at 250.

Mr. Herbert (Ala.) proceeded to argue in favor of a small House, but great confusion in the hall prevented his being heard and he yielded to a motion to adjourn, which was carried.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.

Sen. Jackson introduced a bill presented by Morgan last Congress for the relief of book agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It appropriates $150,000 in compensation for property connected with the publishing house of said book agents in Nashville which was taken or destroyed by the United States in 1864 or at any other time.

After a long debate the Senate by a vote of 33 to 15 passed a resolution to provide a messenger for each of the Committees on Finance, Postoffices, Pensions, Claims, Judiciary, District of Columbia and Engrossed Bills, the pay being fixed at $1,400 per year.

The Senate then took up and temporarily passed over the regular order, the anti-polygamy bill.

Sen. Call, on leave, addressed the Senate in support of his proposed amendment to the pension arrears resolution, declaiming in favor of pensions to survivors of the Indian wars prior to 1842.

Sen. Miller gave notice of his intention to take up the bill restricting Chinese immigration as soon as the Polygamy bill was disposed of.

At 2:25 the anti-Polygamy bill to amend Section 5,352, Revised Statutes of the United States in reference to bigamy and for other purposes, was taken up and amendments proposed by the Committee on Judiciary, read and agreed to up to the fifth section, which authorizes the President to grant amnesty to classes of offenders guilty before the passage of the act, of bigamy, polygamy or unlawful cohabitation on such conditions as he shall think proper.

Sen. Hoar suggested a query whether under his exercise of the pardoning power, which was limited to pardon and reprieves, in individual cases, the President could constitutionally pardon whole classes of offenders against a particular law upon such conditions as he may prescribe. If he could do that then he could proclaim himself King of Utah. If the President can by pardon consummately upon the payment of a certain sum of money, would his act be lawful?

Sen. Edmunds said the Committee had been in doubt whether any provision on this point was necessary at all, and had inserted it only because the question was an open one. The object of it was to enable the Government to say to the great body of the Utah people: "If you stop this practice and sin no more you shall not be prosecuted for what you have already done."

The section as amended and the remaining committee amendment to the eighth section was adopted. The eighth section provides for the conduct of elections, the registration and canvassing of voters, etc., in Territories, until provision for the same is made by legislative assembly as provided for in the bill, the appointees of a Board of five persons to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, all of whom shall not be members of one political party, etc.

Sen. Brown moved to amend so as to require that not more than three of the Board shall be of the same political party.

Sen. Call said that the power to revise the acts of election officers was properly one belonging to the courts, and for a board to say who should constitute a Legislature would be unrepublican and farcical.

Sen. Edmunds replied that the Board would have no power to decide as to the qualifications of electors.

Sen. Vest said the seventh section of the bill declaring polygamists ineligible to office or suffrage proposed to take away the rights of citizens of the United States for past offenses without trial or conviction of the offense. He was opposed to polygamy, but in his abhorrence of it he would be careful not to strike down the safeguard of personal liberty.

Sen. Garland said it was complained that the provisions of the bill were severe and rough, but he would say that they were intended to be severe and rough, and they were nevertheless sanctioned by precedents and organic law. The grant of power given to Congress to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the Territories gave unlimited control in a Territory.

A motion for an executive session was lost by ayes 21, nays 29, and after several efforts to secure an arragement for a vote on the bill, interspersed with motions to adjourn, it was finally arranged the measure should be proceeded with immediately after morning business to-morrow, and the debate upon it closed at 5:30 P. M.

Upon this understanding Edmunds consented to adjournment.

HOUSE.

The morninng hour was dispensed with and the House resumed consideratioo of the apportionment bill, and Mr. Herbert continued his speech in opposition to any increase in the membership of the House.

Mr. Joyce protested against the bill reported by the Census Committee, saying it was a blow at New England.

Mr. Hewitt did not fear an increase in the number of members, provided a rational system was adopted of transacting public business. As now arranged, the whole machinery of Congress was made on the principle of "How not to do it."

Mr. Williams (Wis.) thought 325 the number just to the great and growing States of the Northwest.

Mr. Deering expressed his preference for 322.

Mr. Brumm contended the smaller states had too much power already.

Mr. Clements opposed the bill.

Mr. Anderson said some gentlemen thought 321 was the proper number, but he did not think four more bears would make much difference in a bear garden of 321.

Mr. Page believed the bill of the committee would be voted down by a large majority.

Mr. Gillman opposed the bill for himself. He was in favor of a House of 600. He expressed his wish that the Senate was composed of 300 members. That would place that body above supervision. The people believed that some Senators had secured their seats by corrupt means or were employed by lobbyists. "I don't mean that in any offensive sense," he explained as he saw Sen. Anthony occupying a chair in front of him.

Mr. Cox (N. Y.) submitted a modification of his amendment so as to fix the total number of Representatives at 319.

Mr. Thompson (Ky.) was entitled to the floor for the last hour's debate before the demand for the previous question was recognized, but feeling unwell, yielded to a motion to adjourn, which was voted down by the Republicans. An arrangement was finally agreed to whereby at the conclusion of an hour's debate to-morrow, the previous question shall be considered as seconded and voting upon the various propositions begun, as a vote will also be allowed upon the question as to whether the old or new method of apportionment will be adopted. Adjourned.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.

After a short executive session the anti-Polygamy bill was proceeded with, the question being upon the eighth section as reported from the Judiciary Committee, and Sen. Morgan addressed the Senate. He asked whether the bill would not exclude from his seat in the House the Delegate from Utah, who was represented to be a polygamist.

The discussion was long. Sen. Vest denounced the bill as in its every feature a bill of attainer, inflicting punishment without judicial trial, which was prohibited by the Constitution.

Sen. Pendleton objected to several features of the bill, particularly to one excluding from the jury box known polygamists in trials for polygamy.

Sen. Sherman said he would vote for the bill, but doubted its effectiveness. He believed the time would come, and that it was not far distant, when some of the saints of Utah would have a new revelation from a power all would recognize, and that in this way we would get rid of polygamy by the voluntary action of some of its supporters.

The remaining committee amendments and the several sections of the bill were then agreed to without further debate, and the bill reported to the Senate as from Committee of the Whole.

Sen. Brown then renewed his amendment, requiring that not more than three of the Board of Commissioners shall be members of the same political party; agreed to on a party vote of ayes 26, nays 24.

Sen. Davis (Ill.,) votedaye with the Democrats and Mahone was absent.

Another amendment offered by Sen. Brown to the last section of the bill was adopted, prohibiting the Board from disfranchising any one on account of his opinion on the subject of bigamy or polygamy.

Sen. Saulsbury offered and advocated a proposition making the seventh section inapplicable to all persons now holding office in the Territories. Defeated after a statement of Sen. Edmunds that such amendment would render the bill nugatory, by ayes 13; nays 41.

Several amendments were proposed and defeated by decisive votes, and after rearrangement of its sections the bill finally passed by a viva voce vote, at which no negative responses were heard.

The pension arrears resolution was laid over as unfinished business.

The Committee on Military Affairs reported back the Senate resolution, directing inquiry as to what legislation is necessary to enable widows and heirs of deceased soldiers to receive the benefits of bounties due said soldiers while living and remaining unpaid at the time of their death. The Committee in their report present the desired information in a statement prepared by second Auditor Ferris, of the Treasury Department. Ferris recommends an amendment to the law of April, 1872, which provides that volunteers who enlisted prior to July 22, 1861, and were actually mustered before August 6, 1861, shall be paid $100 bounty. This act, Ferris suggests, should be amended by striking out the words "before August 6, 1861," and extending its provisions to the widows and heirs of deceased soldiers, and also to further amend the law so that all claims for bounty which have been disallowed, may be reopened and re-examined. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

Under call of committees the following bills were reported:

Mr. Carlisle, from the Committee on Ways and Means—To regulate the collection of tax on Weiss beer. Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Burrows, from the Committee on Territories—For the admission of Dakota into the Union as a State. House calendar.

Mr. Hooker, from the Committee on Indian Affairs—To provide additional training schools for Indian youth. House calendar.

Bills were reported for the erection of public buildings at Columbus, Ohio; Erie, Pennsylvania, and Leavenworth, Kansas.

Mr. Dunnell, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill fixing the term of office of Collectors of Internal Revenue at four years. House calendar.

Mr. Horr reported (adversely) from the Committee on Civil Service Reform, a bill to reduce the salaries of the heads of departments and members of Congress; referred Committee of the Whole.

Consideration of the apportionment bill was resumed.

Mr. Prescott's resolution basing the representation of the old system of apportionment, was then agreed to without division.

Mr. Bayne (Penn.) moved to amend so as to provide that the apportionment shall be based upon the Seaton method, and Converse (O.), to the amendment so as to adopt the plan previously presented and favored by him.

Mr. Hooker submitted an amendment to the bill selecting 336 as the total number of Representatives.

Mr. Thompson (Ky.) addressed the House in favor of the apportionment bill fixing the number of members at 325.

At 5 the previous question was seconded, and a vote was taken on the amendment offered by Mr. Converse to the resolution submitted by Prescott, and it was rejected.

Mr. Bayne's amendment only receives nine affirmative votes, while 140 member were recorded as opposed to the adoption of the Seaton method.

Mr. Prescott's resolution, basing the representation upon the old system of apportionment, was then agreed to without division.

The Speaker stated the first vote would be on the amendment offered by Cox, fixing the representation at 307, and ruled that Cox could not modify it by changing the number to 316.

Mr. Cox thereupon withdrew the amendment.

The next vote was taken on the amendment offered by Anderson (Kan.), fixing the number at 325, and it was agreed to by yeas, 162; nays, 104. The Representatives are distributed among the several States as follows:

Alabama	8	Arkansas	5
Colorado	1	California	6
Connecticut	4	Delaware	1
Florida	2	Georgia	10
Illinois	20	Indiana	13
Iowa	11	Kansas	7
Kentucky	11	Louisiana	6
Maine	4	Maryland	6
Massachusetts	12	Michigan	11
Minnesota	7	Mississippi	7
Missouri	14	Nebraska	3
Nevada	1	New Hampshire	2
New Jersey	7	New York	34
North Carolina	9	Ohio	21
Oregon	1	Pennsylvania	28
Rhode Island	2	South Carolina	7
Tennessee	10	Texas	11
Vermont	2	Virginia	10
West Virginia	4	Wisconsin	9

The next vote was taken upon the amendment offered to the third section of the bill by Mr. Beltzhoover (Pa.) the object of which is to make it unlawful to divide any parish or county in the formation of any representative district, which shall consist by one county or parish; rejected by yeas 117; nays 135.

Mr. Springer (Ill.) moved to consider the vote by which the House had rejected the amendment offered by Mr. Colerick, (Ind.) amending section three of the bill, so as to provide if in any State in which the numbering of representatives is changed by this act, the Legislature thereof shall not have adopted its laws in time to enable Representatives to be elected to the Forty-eighth Congress, it shall be lawful for the Governor of such State after it shall have been redistricted, to provide for a special election for such Representatives. When this amendment was rejected, there was no interest taken in it, and Mr. Colerick was unable to obtain the yeas and nays, but Mr. Springer's motion to reconsider it was the signal of a scene of great noise and confusion.

A motion to table the motion to reconsider was immediately made on the Republican side and the Democrats demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Springer asked that the amendment be read, but a storm of objection came from the Republican side, and the Speaker ruled it would only be read by unanimous consent.

Instantly Mr. Hooker, (Miss.) Mr. Springer, (Ill.) and Mr. Aiken, (S. C.) were on their feet and insisting upon their right to hear the proposition upon which they were called to vote. Continuous rapping of the Speaker's gavel had little effect in allaying the confusion, and it was not until consent had been given to the reading of the amendment that comparative order was restored. The vote was then taken on the motion to lay on table the motion to reconsider the vote by which the House rejected Colerick's amendment, and resulted in yeas 134; nays 4; no quorum. The Democrats refrained from voting.

Without further action the House adjourned.

QUITE A HORSE THIEF.

Alex. Arnold Confesses Having Stolen 34 Horses During the Past Year.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Feb. 15.—The particulars of a very remarkable case of horse stealing have been made public here. On the 6th of January, Lieut. Vandever, of the police force, arrested Alexander Arnold in this city with two horses in his possession, which subsequently proved to be the property of men named Russell and Hughes, of Decatur, Ill. When he found he was sure to be convicted, Arnold confessed to the officer that he had been pardoned out of the Illinois State prison about two years ago, after having served some 18 months or so of an 18

News of the Week.

TELEGRAPHIC CONDENSATIONS.

The Egyptian ministry has decided upon the utter abolition of slavery.

The Protestant churches at Washington Sunday adopted anti-polygamy resolutions.

The tax collector of Decatur County, Ga., is said to have fled with $5,000, funds of the County.

A German painter has completed for an American club a life-size portrait of Count Von Moltke.

Chas. Barney Lyon, Sellers and Lynchpin were the winning horses at the Augusta, Ga., races Saturday.

At Lexington, Ky., Joe Lawson, a negro desperado, was sentenced to death for the murder of John Stevenson, last Christmas.

The people of Bismarck have organized a company with $2,000,000 capital, to build a road of 280 miles toward Manitoba.

In a corn field near Bloomington, Ill., a colored tramp was caught in the act of searching a mail-pouch, stolen from a St. Louis train.

The Rev. Father O'Farrel suicided at St. Francis Hospital, Peoria, Ill., yesterday. He was located at Monmouth for 15 years.

In the Virginia Senate Saturday the resolution requesting Mahone to return to Washington was indefinitely postponed—20 to 14.

At Louisville, a jury awarded Mike McCay $7,500 for injuries received while coupling cars on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

Ex-Lieut. Gov. Samuel Purdy died suddenly at San Francisco, Cal., Friday night, aged 64. Supposed cause of death, heart disease.

Not one in a hundred of the applicants for tickets to the Garfield Memorial services in Washington on the 27th inst. will be accommodated.

It is stated that Thomas Nast is about to retire from business with the Harpers, having made enough money to support himself in comfort.

Those directly interested in the rebuilding of the navy hope for an appropriation of $10,000,000 to be expended on seven new ships of war.

The Colored Jubilee Singers were denied admission to every hotel in Washington City, and until after midnight did not find a place to sleep.

At Pittsburg a Swede named Abraham Neilson beat his wife so badly that she died in a half hour. Neilson has been arrested and lodged in jail.

The carpenter and the mason who were making repairs in the old World building when the fire occurred, have given bail to appear before the Grand Jury.

Clarence Barton, the Washington editor, who figured in the Soteldo affair, is a nephew of Barton Key, whom Gen. Sickles killed many years ago.

Two million white fish spawn have been deposited at Muskegon, Mich., 2,000,000 at Racine, and 2,000,000 are to be placed in Lake Michigan, at Sheboygan.

Mr. Lloyd, a temporary magistrate of County Clare, was fired at from behind a wall at Bodyke, Ireland. Eleven arrests for outrage were made at Swineford.

A snow blockade on a Nova Scotia railroad stopped the train 14 miles from its destination, and the passengers got out and walked the balance of the journey.

The Memorial Committee of the Mississippi River Convention, held in St. Louis last October, will visit Washington soon to confer with the House Committee on business.

Catherine Frederick, 53 years of age, living in the Town of Lake, Milwaukee County, Wis., cut her throat Friday and died soon afterward. No cause is known for the act.

Hon. Joseph E. Sheffield, proprietor of the New Haven & Northampton Railway, and founder of the Yale Sheffield Scientific School, is dead, aged 90 years, and leaving $2,000,000.

Sullivan challenges Ryan through the New York Herald to spar with him with boxing-gloves, and offers to wager $1 000 that he can get in a larger number of clean hits than Paddy can.

B. O. Carr, Supervising Inspector of Steamboats, with headquarters in Louisville, has sent his resignation to Pres. Arthur, and will retire to a farm he recently purchased in California.

Thos. B. Reeder, ex-Recorder of Henry County, Indiana, is reported to have fled on the eve of the discovery of forgeries covering an aggregate amount estimated all the way from $2,000 to $10,000.

At Lancaster, Ky., Wm. Austin was found guilty of the murder of Miss Betsy Bland, 80 years old, and the penalty of death affixed. Austin is 24 years old. The murder was committed January 20th.

Since the late decision of the Tennessee Supreme Court favoring the repudiation party in the State certain waterworks contractors have refused to build the Knoxville Waterworks upon her bonds.

At Raleigh, N. C., while Eldridge Blake and a man named Peebles, both white, were carrying Henry Jones, a negro cattle thief, to a magistrate for trial, Jones shot and killed Blake and escaped.

Near Summit, Miss., a peddler, warned by the mistress of a farmer's house not to enter the yard, did so and was jumped on by two vicious dogs, which killed him on the spot, mangling his body in a horrible manner.

The New Jersey House of Representatives adopted resolutions demanding that the National Government take action to secure the release of American citizens imprisoned in Ireland and to protect the oppressed Jews.

The National Sunday School Teacher, of Chicago, after 16 years historical existence, became merged in the Sunday School Times, of Philadelphia, its editor, W. C. Hazard, taking editorial position upon that paper.

The Union Mutual Benefit Associations of the State of New York, representing associations having a membership of 400,000, decided to oppose the repeal of the present law regarding co-operative insurance organizations.

Sen. Mahone, while laboring in Richmond to restore harmony among the Readjusters, is saluted by a resolution offered in the State Legislature inviting him to return to Washington and attend to his own official duties

A company intends erecting at different places in Texas large slaughtering houses, in which meat would be dressed for transportation in refrigerator cars to the North. It is said the company will want next year 50,000 cattle and 300,000 sheep.

C. S. Cone, jr., General Ticket Agent of the Ohio & Mississippi Road, was accidentally killed near North Vernon, on that road. It seems he put his head out the window as the train went on a bridge, that it was struck by the timbers and crushed.

At Marion, O., John Highwarden died while being placed under the influence of chloroform by surgeons for the purpose of having an injured eye removed. An examination of his physical condition made beforehand led the surgeons to believe there was nothing in the state of his health to render the use of chloroform dangerous.

Mrs. Scoville was interviewed by a Chicago reporter, and said the copy of her letter to Mrs. Garfield's letter was secured by fraud, and the means employed to get possession of the letter was not known by her. She regrets exceedingly its publication, as it was only a letter from woman to woman, and not intended for publication.

The annual report of Pres. Vorch, of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago road, shows the gross earnings for 1880, $686,369; for 1881, $947,654; operating expenses, 1880, $593,343; for 1881, $717,-663; net earnings, 1880, $343,908; for 1881, $230,571. There is not one dollar of floating debt. Four thousand tons of steel rails, costing $93,000,695 were purchased and laid during the year.

SHIPHERD'S "FRIENDS."

Correspondence Relative to the Peruvian Company—The President of the Company Claiming "Confidential Relations" With All the Prominent Men of the Country.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—The committee appointed under Belmont's resolution to report upon the Shipherd letters, reported—first, that a complete transcript of letters referred to in the resolution by names and dates and of other letters already communicated from which the names of persons and firms have been omitted are herewith returned, together with a list of the same; second, that the only reply on file in the Department of State to said letters of Jacob R. Shipherd is dated December 17, 1881, and is herewith returned; third, measures were taken to recover the letters declared to be missing from the files of the Department, and requests for similar searches were made to all persons connected or formerly connected with the Department into whose possession said letters might have come in the course of business. It is believed that in all cases when such requests were made searches were made, which proved to be fruitless. The search in the Department, as has already been reported, was equally fruitless.

In a letter from Shipherd to Minister Hurlbut, dated New York, June 2, 1881, Shipherd says: "Among the many representative gentlemen with whom I have already, or shall have soon, confidential relations in the premises, I may name such as these: E. D. Morgan, Wm. E. Dodge, Hugh McCullough, Norrin Green, W. R. Garrison, A. Belmont, S. B. Chittenden, John Hay, Amasa Stone, Wm. H. Vanderbilt, John Sherman, Eugene Hale, Murat Halstead, Whitelaw Reid, Fisk & Hatch, Sam'l Sloan, Marshall Jewell, H. L. Dawes, S. D. Babcock, John A. Stewart, Jay Cooke, Evarts, Southmayd & Choate, U. S. Grant, A. A. Low, T. H. Wade, H. H. Payne, Horace White, David Dows & Co., Joseph Medill, H. B. Hyde, A. S. Hewitt, W. L. Scott, J. D. Cameron, Howard Crosby, Hobson Hurtado, Sydney Dillon, Merton, Bliss & Co., H. B. Claflin, A. S. Barnes, Henry Hilton, J. & W. Seligman & Co., M. K. Jessup & Co., Drexel, Morgan & Co., Wm. W. Astor, Horace T. Caswell."

Rep. Belmont's resolution, in response to which the correspondence was sent to the House to-day, was offered in the House for the purpose of disclosing the names of parties supposed to be interested in the Peruvian Company which had been withheld by the State Department, when the correspondence was sent to the Senate some days ago.

Under date of New York, October 10, 1881, Shipherd writes Sec. Blaine, and says: "I have to-day addressed you copies of letters to the Peruvian Minister and Hon. Marcial Martinez, the originals of which have been transmitted to Hon. Mr. Boutwell, counsel of this Company at Washington, to deliver to their respective addresses."

Under date of New York, October, 27, 1881, Shipherd writes Minister Hurlbut: "For your own satisfaction I may say that our staff counsel stated that such representative and various men as Gov. Boutwell, Sen. Eaton, Sen. Conkling, Collector Robertson, ex-Congressman Lord and Sen. Blair are absolutely agreed to this, as on every other point material to the pending issues, and the suggestion of policy have the hearty autograph approval of Gen. Grant, who is now one of us. The significance of all this you need no aid from me to estimate."

A number of other letters to Hurlbut were submitted, urging action in favor of American protectorate for the benefit of American interests in Peru.

Under date of Lima, November 28, 1881, Minister Hurlbut writes Sec. Blaine, "SIR: * * * I also send a long letter from Jacob R. Shipherd. I call attention to the part marked with lines. I have written him, declining further correspondence, except through the department, and I have also writeen a letter in explanation to Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, said by Shipherd to be his attorney."

Under date of New York, November 26, 1881, Shipherd writes Minister Hurlbut: "As soon as your letter came I sent the letter to Sec. Blaine through Sen. Blair. I was again in Washington last week and had full talk with the President, at Gen. Grant's suggestion and on his introduction."

The last enclosure is Hurlbut's letter to Shipherd, under date of Lima, Peru, December 17, 1881, in which he says: "I have tried as far as I could to make you understand. I cannot have and ought not to have anything to do with your company or yourself as its agent. Both my general and particular instructions forbid my taking notice of matters unless referred to me through the Department of State. Once more and for the last time I repeat this statement. I shall return your papers to the Secretary of State, as I have done others, and definitely close all correspondence with you unless otherwise directed by the Department."

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

The Boot and Shoe Territory of Haverhill, Mass., Burned Out—Big Fire at Chelsea.

BOSTON, Feb. 18.—Reports from Haverhill state a fire started in the business portion of the town. At this hour (1:30 A. M.) it seems all ablaze, and the business portion will undoubtedly be destroyed. The flames are still raging, and the prospects for gaining control over the fire at this hour are very unfavorable. The loss will be several millions. A number of people are rendered homeless.

LATER—The fire is under control. But one block remains on Wingate street and two at the upper end of Washington street. All else in the square bounded by Merrimac River on the south, Washington Square and Essex street on the east, the north side of Wingate street and north and Railroad Square on the west, burned to the ground. This territory embraces the largest part of the boot and shoe manufactories. The loss cannot be estimated at present.

Jos. Pratt, fireman, was killed, and Geo. Whittier fatally injured.

What yesterday was the finest street in the City and principal business mart is today a smouldering mass of ruins. Some 80 shoe firms are entirely burned out, and others suffer more or less damage. Two thousand people are out of employment, and several families are homeless. The loss is estimated at $2,000,000.

Engines were present from Newburyport, Lawrence and Lowell.

Men are already at work clearing away the debris.

HAVERHILL, Mass., Feb. 20.—The city is full of strangers viewing the remains of the fire. Several safes were opened and the contents mainly found unharmed. Many, however, were broken by falling from upper stories and in them shone melted gold and silver. The severe beating of one thief by citizens and police restrained others and no robbery is reported. While the ruins in many places still blaze and smoke and steam envelope all, every one is hopeful. Most of the manufacturers will fill their orders, having made arrangements to start business to-morrow morning. There will not be a stampede of workmen. The burnt district will be built more substantially. Haverhill has received a blow, but is not ruined.

The funeral of fireman Germain took place to-day.

On Washington street 84 business firms and individuals suffer a loss of nearly $600,000, while the loss of others in the same street aggregates $120,000.

BOSTON, Feb. 18.—The Journal estimates the loss at Haverhill at $2,500,000, and says the most dreadful feature of the calamity is the loss of life, and the awful uncertainty caused many anxious hearts. It is feared the body of a score or more prominent business men are buried in the ruins. The City Marshal states that three men are missing. The spread of flames was so rapid they were unable to escape.

A Golden Dust-Man.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—John H. McGinnis, a sweeper employed in the Post-office at $2 a day, has received official information from Milton Springs, Cal., that he has fallen heir to property worth $80,000, left to him by John W. Mann, a successful mining speculator.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.

After considering several bills on the calendar without action, the Senate agreed to adjourn over until Monday, and then ordered an executive session.

When the doors re-opened the pension arrears resolution was taken up, and laid over as unfinished business.

HOUSE.

Mr. Valentine (Neb.) reported the agricultural appropriation bill. Committee of the Whole.

The Apportionment bill was then taken up, and the question recurred on the substitute offered by Mr. Page (Cal.) providing that the House shall be composed of 319 members. This Mr. Page desired withdrawn, but as it was the number favored by the Democrats, objection was made. It was, however, rejected by yeas, 99; nays, 148.

The previous question was then ordered on the final passage of the bill, pending which, Colerick (Ind.) moved to recommit with instructions to the Committee on Census to report a provision that in the States where the number of Representatives is reduced, it shall be lawful for the Governor after the State shall have been redistricted to provide for a special election. The motion to recommit was lost by yeas 12, nays 142. The bill then passed without division. It is as follows:

Be it enacted, etc; That after the third of March, 1883, the House of Representatives shall be composed of 325 members, to be apportioned among the several States as follows:

Alabama	8	Arkansas	5
Colorado	1	California	6
Connecticut	4	Delaware	1
Florida	2	Georgia	10
Illinois	20	Indiana	13
Iowa	11	Kansas	7
Kentucky	11	Louisiana	6
Maine	4	Maryland	6
Massachusetts	12	Michigan	11
Minnesota	5	Mississippi	7
Missouri	14	Nebraska	3
Nevada	1	New Hampshire	2
New Jersey	7	New York	34
North Carolina	9	Ohio	21
Oregon	1	Pennsylvania	28
Rhode Island	2	South Carolina	7
Tennessee	10	Texas	11
Vermont	2	Virginia	10
West Virginia	4	Wisconsin	9

Sec. 2. That whenever a new State is admitted to the Union the representative or representatives assigned it shall be in addition to the number of 325.

Sec. 3. That in each State entitled under the apportionment the number to which such State may be entitled in the Forty-eighth and each subsequent Congress shall be elected by districts composed of contiguous territory and containing as nearly as practicable an equal number to the representatives to which such State may be entitled in Congress, no one district electing more than one representative.

Provided, That unless the Legislature of such State shall otherwise provide before the election shall take place as provided by law, where no change shall hereby be made in the representation of a State, the Representatives thereof to the Forty-eighth Congress shall be elected therein as now provided by law. If the number as herein provided for shall be larger than it was before this change, then the additional Representative or Representatives allowed to such State under this apportionment may be elected by the State and other Representatives in the Districts prescribed by law in said State, and if the number hereby provided shall in any State be less than it was before the change hereby made, then the whole number to such State hereby provided for shall be elected at large unless the Legislature of said States have provided, or shall otherwise provide, before the time fixed by law, for the next election of Representatives therein.

All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

The House adjourned until to-morrow.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.

Sen. Hale, from the Census Committee, reported favorably the House apportionment bill, and asked unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

Sen. Cockrell objected, as the Senators had not yet a chance to read it.

Sen. Hale said the Committee were unanimous in support of the measure, and urged that no time be lost, as several State Legislatures were awaiting Congressional action.

Sen. Cockrell withdrew his objection and Sen. Hale said he would renew his motion later.

Bills were introduced and referred:

By Sen. Saunders—Making an appropriation to improve the navigation of the Missouri River opposite the States of Nebraska and Iowa.

By Sen. Windom—Appropriating money for the purchase of a site and the erection thereon of a public building at Duluth.

Sen. Call offered a resolution, which at his instance was tabled to be printed, reciting that the interests of peace between Nations, the obligations and rights which are reciprocal between the United States of America and all other people and governments of the Americas, as well as the commercial interests of the people of the United States, render it proper that the Government of the United States in some proper form adopt measures to settle the controversy between Chili and Peru and prevent the forcible dismemberment of Peru. That a Congress to be convened in Washington City and composed of representatives from the people and the different Governments of North, South and Central Americas for the purpose of agreeing upon some just method of settlement of the questions now existing or that shall hereafter arise between the Governments would be a wise and beneficial measure.

The Senate proceeded to the calendar and Sen. Logan asked to have taken up as first in order the bill to place Gen. Grant on the retired list.

Sen. Vest objected, but the bill was taken up and the amendments of the committee thereto adopted without objection.

A discussion of the bill to retire Gen. Grant consumed the session until 3:25.

Sen. Logan explained the point he sought to make clear, was that the law made no distinction as to the circumstances of an office, that it based retirements only upon length of service, wounds or disability. Gentlemen seemed afraid that Gen. Grant might be humiliated, but the friends of that gentleman ought to be the judges on that point. As one such he would say that as a recognition of the services of the distinguished beneficiary, his retirement would be considered by him as an honor.

Sen. Butler suggested that upon this consideration a similar provision should be made for Gens. Franklin, McClellan and other distinguished soldiers.

Sen. Logan admitted the entire propriety of any proposition to that effect.

Sen. Vest disclaimed any prejudice against Gen. Grant or any other soldier. To say he or any of his associates who had been identified with the Confederacy entertained mean and contemptible jealousies against a man because he had conquered them in open fight was simply to make a personal reflection to which he would not reply.

The bill comes up again to-morrow.

The pension arrears resolution was taken up, and Sen. McPherson offered and advocated a substitute declaring the Senate adheres to the principle that pensions shall be computed from the time of disability and directing the Pension Committee to bring in a bill, by which the business of the pension bureau may be expedited and frauds discovered.

Executive session interrupted the discussion, and when the doors reopened the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. Hewitt, rising to a question of privilege, referred to the recently published letter of Jacob R. Shipherd to Minister Hurlburt, of Peru, and to the use his (Hewitt's) name as being one of the gentlemen with whom Shipherd claimed to be in confidential negotiations. As he was the only member of the House whom Shipherd included in his list of names, it was proper to say he did not know Shipherd, had never known him, and the use of his name by Shipherd was entirely without his knowledge, privity or consent. He found on his desk one day a circular, which may have related to this business and which he threw in the waste basket. He was also authorized in behalf of August Belmont to make a similar statement.

On motion of Mr. Valentine, (Neb.), a bill was passed authorizing the Secretary of War to lend to Nebraska tents, etc., to be used at the soldiers' reunion to be held at Grand Island, Neb.

Under the call of States bills were introduced:

By Mr. Cobb, (Ind.)—Providing that all silver coin defaced or worn by ordinary use shall be received by the Government and paid for it in perfect coin at its original value.

By Mr. White—To enable soldiers and sailors to obtain in money the value of the homestead to which they are entitled.

By Mr. Buckner—For construction of a bridge across the Mississippi, near the northern part of the City of St. Louis.

By Mr. Robinson—A resolution extending sympathy to the laboring classes of Ireland and their representatives now in prison.

By Mr. Neal—Authorizing the Secretary of War to transfer to the Fairmount Park Association 100 condemned bronzed cannon for the erection of an equestrian statue to the late James A. Garfield.

By Mr. White—Appropriating $35,000 for the survey of water route between Bentyville, Ky., and Cumberland, Ga.

By Mr. Randall—Providing that all public buildings shall be constructed of stone found in the State where the buildings are to be erected.

Mr. McKinley, (O.), from the Committee on Ways and Means, moved to suspend the rules and pass a joint resolution refunding the American revisors of the New Testament the duties paid on copies of the Revised Testament.

A resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to grant immediate relief to destitute citizens of Arkansas and Louisiana, in the Red River valley, was referred.

A bill establishing distinct United States courts and officers thereof in the Northern and Southern Judicial Districts of Georgia was agreed to. A bill to promote the efficiency of the life saving service and to encourage saving life from shipwrecks, passed.

A bill authorizing the payment of Japanese indemnity fund of $1,770,340 to the Japanese Government, with the exception of $254,000, which shall be paid to the officers and crew of the United States ship "Wyoming," passed amid applause.

The House then took a recess to an evening session for consideration of the District of Columbia Code bill.

TERRIBLE CALAMITY.

Explosion in the Pyrotechnic Works at Chester, Pa,

Fifteen or Twenty Persons Killed and a Large Number Dangerously Wounded.

CHESTER, Pa., Feb. 17.—About 8 this morning an explosion occurred at the Pyrotechnic works of Prof. Jackson, this City. The building was badly shattered, took fire and was consumed. At least 15, and probably more lives are lost, and many dangerously wounded. The building is the old homestead of Admiral Porter. A number of colored families lived in the old Porter mansion.

It seems it first took fire, and while the firemen were playing on the flames, and a large crowd surrounded them, the explosion occurred, scattering destruction far and wide. The number of killed is between 15 and 20. About 20 dangerously and 50 more or less seriously wounded. The dead are being laid in the City Hall, and the wounded cared for in the various drug stores. No accurate list can be obtained now.

CHESTER, Pa., Feb. 17.—The following is a list of the killed by the explosion this morning: John Lamptugh, Thomas Dollison, Thomas Anderson, Alexander Phillips, John Pollick, Joseph Kestner, George Taylor, James Doughty, Benjamin Gartt-Perry Williams (colored), Anthony Barber, William Wood, fireman, John Daiers and Edward Stropschire. All the killed lived here.

Fifty are more or less wounded, three fatally.

Part of the mansion had been used by Prof. Jackson, pyrotechnist, for some years as a place for manufacturing explosive commodities. The firemen, after being assured there was no explosives in the place, went to work; after playing on the flames about half an hour a terrific explosion occurred. The bodies of men were thrown in every direction, the air filled with rubbish, the ground covered with victims—some killed, some seriously injured, and others badly hurt. The dead bodies of the men lay coiled on the ground; others labored in the agonies of death; a number writhing in their blood, moaned and groaned piteously for help. Many lay insensible of their surroundings, and others, bruised and bleeding, groped their way from the scene of the terrible accident.

The scene beggars description, people prayed in the open streets, and the shrieks of the dying were appaling.

The fire was abandoned and everybody in condition to do so turned their attention to alleviating distress—houses in the vicinity of the explosion were converted into hospitals and the wounded removed thereto.

THE INDICTED.

Indictments Against the Star Routers—What Col. Bliss Thinks—The Defendants Surprised, but Still Defiant.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—A reporter of the Associated Press interviewed Col. George Bliss, chief counsel in the star route prosecution, last night. Col. Bliss confirmed the report of indictments, and gave the following list: Ex-Assistant Postmaster-General Thomas J. Brady, Ex-Sen. Stephen A. Dorsey, John W. Dorsey, W. H. Turner, John R. Miner and Henry M. Vaille, J. L. Sanderson and J. M. Peck. The last named (Peck) is said to have died recently. It is understood the presentments do not include J. L. French, F. B. Lilley and S. P. Brown, who were included in the original information. Col. Bliss stated the Grand Jury was unanimous in its findings upon the merits of the cases. One juror had some doubt as to the application of the statute of limitations to several of the cases, but none whatever as to the propriety of returning indictments.

Said Col. Bliss: "In regard to this unanimous action of the Grand Jury, It is first, a vindication of the administration of justice in the District of Columbia; second, it is a vindication of the administration of Pres. Arthur, who has insisted from the first that justice should have full sway in these cases, and that the guilty should be punished; and third, it is a vindication of the prosecution, and, in a minor sense, of myself, for I have said all along these parties ought to be indicted, and that I believe they would be. I never saw any case in which the evidence was collected with so much energy, intelligence and ability. That credit does not belong to me, nor to any of the prosecution, but to the Inspectors of the Postoffice, who gathered this testimony from all parts of the West. There has been some criticism of the apparent delay or dilatoriness on the part of the prosecution. It was all one month, working upon an average of not less than 16 hours a day, selecting and deciding upon witnesses who we should call. For instance, on one route in Washington Territory were two witnesses familiar with all the facts on the lower end of the route, and two who were as familar with important facts relating to the upper end. We concluded finally not to call either of these, but to summon a witness who knew really less about the route than the others, but whose knowledge was as to facts relating to the entire route. We called him in order to economize. There were 53 witnesses before the Grand Jury; the aggregate payments to them for fees and mileage were $10,000. The prosecution will call about 150 witnesses."

"When do you expect to get to trial?" asked the reporter.

"Well, if the defendants honestly desire speedy trial, we can begin in April. It will require 10 days to draw indictments. They are being perpared by Mr. Kerr, in the Attorney General's office. The Government's witnesses who appeared before the Grand Jury have been allowed to return home. Some witnesses came 4,700 miles."

Bliss seems naturally very much gratified at the action of the grand jury. He says he cautioned the foreman and jury against finding any indictments that would not result in convicting even before a petit jury. He says the Government will institute civil suits against various mail contractors who are believed to have profited by the star route ring, wherever there is reason to believe they have property. The sureties of contractors cannot be proceeded against, but Bliss says the Government intends to make a determined effort to recover a part at least of the money illegally taken from it and paid contractors.

The action of the grand jury was a great surprise to the accused and their counsel, but the defense said it was a small matter anyhow, as they had a clue that would demolish the prosecution as soon as the cases get into Court. They declined to state, however, what this clue is. Col. Bliss says there is no question whatever but that all cases come within the statute of limitations.

Representative Davis, of Illinois, has introduced a bill providing for the better protection and comfort of emigrants to the United States.

Five masked men entered the farm-house of Michael Ulrich, five miles east of Harrisburg, Pa., and intimidated the aged couple into surrendering $1,000 secreted in chests and kettles in an adjoining building.

A SISTER'S PLEA.

Mrs. Scoville Addresses Mrs. Garfield in Behalf of Her Brother.

And Asks Her to "Forgive, Even as Christ Shall Forgive Us All."

CLEVELAND, Feb. 17.—Mrs. Scoville's letter praying forgiveness for her brother, Guiteau, was delivered this morning to Mrs. Garfield. The following are extracts:

DEAR MADAM—Humbly I address you, trusting you will not turn a deaf ear even upon the dispised Guiteau's sister. All these weary months I have patiently waited until the time should come for me to speak. Whenever the verdict I believed would be "not guilty" by reason of insanity, I could say without shame's sake, "my heart bleeds for you and the sainted dead." My poor brother was not his own master when he fired that shot, "Forgive him." "Look with compassion upon him." I have counted the hours for the time when I could boldly say to you, as I have said from the moment when the terrible news was brought to me on that dark day in July. He was brain-sick, deluded, crazy. Forgive him, even as Christ shall forgive us all.

All the dreadful weeks of the President's suffering I prayed that the Father above us all would spare his life. Day and night my beseeching cry went up, "God save the President." I thought he could not die when the people of the whole world called mightily unto him to interpose in his behalf. I said, "Surely he will show forth his glory." But, alas, the tenderest care of wife, family and friends, the prayers of the people, could not move the Ruler of the universe to countermand the dread of his all-wise and miraculous providence, could not keep life in his poor body and his grand soul, despite the vigils and the prayers of his family, of the action of the world; the midnight bells were tolled, the midnight cry was heard: "The President is dead!" We gazed upon the lifeless clay, gone to dwell with the glorified saints of the Lord. Our tears flowed without stint, and we say, "Is there no God?" Truly it was a grievous wrong. The Lord, and he alone, can judge where lies the moral responsibility; this people are in His hands. They walk on holy ground. It befits them that they see to it, putting off their feet the unclean shoes of their worldly walking, being shod of the sandals and righteous; that they tread cautiously, tenderly, to the end that justice and truth and mercy shall prevail.

In July, when it was reported that the suffering President was likely to recover, I wrote a letter to you stating the facts in my brother's life and every theory of this case, thinking that both myself and the President would be glad to know that a poor crazy man had done the deed, instead of the hardened wretch he was pointed out. At the time it was reported the President was interested in any thing regarding the terrible affair, that he even said one day, "I wonder what that poor, poor fellow would say if he knew I had forgiven him?" Oh! that I might know from his own wife if that were true. My heart be still! Heaven we know, as we are known. The sainted Garfield knows that he had to do it, and I feel sure if he could speak he would say: Forgive that deluded man, even as I forgive him. Safely keep him from doing any more harm, but forgive him. I never sent the letter. The report came almost immediately that teat the President was worse, and I knew you would not wish to be troubled with anything from Guiteau's sister, I had hoped by waiting to come before you with a better showing, "vindicated," so far as insanity is an excuse for crime, but my heart burns within me, and notwithstanding that unjust verdict and barbarous sentence, I must speak. My poor brother. Shut away from the world for months in a tomb-like cell, not a ray of sunshine, not a blade of grass, not a flower, not a bird, not a second person to speak a kind word. Who is there to speak in his behalf, if not his heart-broken sister. Did I not speak the very stones would cry out. His sainted mother, the purest and noblest of women; that mother, who gave her life for his, who suffered torture for several years because of his birth, until death made her free; that father, tender and kind, but mistaken in his direction of the boy, would, if possible make their voices heard from beyond the grave. Even, as I verily believe, would the glorious Garfield cry out in horror of that verdict. Was it according to truth, justice and mercy? Verily, no. I had hoped to be able to cast myself at the feet of Judge Cox, to be able, so long as I had breath, to look up to him as the grand, the noble, the just Judge, who could stand as firm as the everlasting rocks for the weak and defenseless against the world. But alas, my idol, and that Jury. God only knows how I had trusted in their honesty and steadfastness. I had watched their faces day by day; had seen their eager, solemn interest when my brother was reading his sad address. When he came to the recitation of those few lines:

John Brown's body lies a mouldering in the grave,

But his soul goes marching on.

commenced in a sad, low melody of the song, breaking up and ending in the weird hysterical laugh, the awful laugh of the insane. One could feel the silence. I thought surely it is enough, no power on earth can prevail upon those men to say a poor lunatic, without revenge, without motive except to obey what he deemed the will of God, committed a willful murder, but they did. They must have reasoned as some do, that it is a good thing to hang a crazy man as an example to other crazy men.

Shall the true story of Charles Guiteau's life ever be told, the world will see that he has been more sinned against than sinning. He has never smoked or drank, or gambled or lied, or been profane, or been in any way vicious. Detectives, scouring the country for months, have found—what? That he did not always pay his board; that he borrowed $100 from a minister which he never returned; that he pawned a watch for $25; that he sinned against himself and only himself to give an unworthy woman a legal divorce. Little did I think the time would come when she, the woman who could not say he had ever wronged her, would travel across the Continent to swear his life away. When he dismissed the woman he had once loved, with his blessing, I was moved to tears. If ever my poor brother proved that the blood of a gentleman flows in his veins he proved it then. Wreck though he is, I was proud of him.

My Dear Madame: I write this to the widow of our dead President in behalf of a man not himself in a condition to realize the extent of the terrible wrong or to understand your sufferings or mine. Never can I rest satisfied until I be allowed upon my bended knees under the weight of this humiliation and disgrace few brief moments in which to pour forth to your merciful heart the pleading of one who must feel a sister's love for an insane motherless boy, even though by the whole world condemned and despised. I beg you let me say to you and yours what he would say if in his right mind, "forgive, even as Christ shall forgive us all." With the utmost sorrow and respect, I remain sincerely yours, FRANCES M. SCOVILLE.

GLADSTONE

Says He Has Some Very Clear Ideas About Irish Affairs.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—In explaining in the Commons his recent utterance in regard to home rule, Gladstone said he held on the question of local government very clear and distinct opinions, though it was unlikely he would ever be called to take action upon them. He considered the decentralization of Parliament should be the cardinal rule of policy; that local institutions are the source of great strength, and to them is adequate provision for the supremacy of central authority. He believed a wise and just way of meeting the demand for bringing Irish affairs more under Irish control is not to regard it as the first steps towards separtion, but rather to ask the promotors of the change to formulate the guarantees they proposed to give for the supremacy of Parliament. He had never yet received adequate and satisfactory explanation on this point.

The Markets.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BUSINESS.

Financial.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE, WEDNESDAY, Feb. 20, 1882.

The general business of the country during the past week did not make as favorable a showing as that of the corresponding week in 1881, but there is nothing in the situation of affairs to indicate that depression will set in. The opening of business in the Spring promises to be favorable. The marked decline in the wheat market during the week very naturally had a tendency to unsettle other branches of trade. Bonds and stocks were irregular, but at no time was there a panicky feeling, and latest telegraphic information shows that confidence has to a great degree been restored, and there is a firmer tone observable. The prostration of telegraphic lines has cut off free communication between various sections of the country, and as a consequence the reports that are generally received regarding trade up to within an hour before the BLADE is sent to press, were not forthcoming to-day. However, everything in the way of stock reports and markets is quite fresh and only a few hours behind—less than a day. The disappointment this afternoon has been very great to Boards of Trade and Stock Boards, where the state of the markets is posted for the benefit of members every minute or two during the session.

The United States Treasury now holds: United States bonds to secure National bank circulation, $676,625,700; bonds deposited during the week, $1,187,350; bonds withdrawn during the week, $1,239,500. National bank currency outstanding: Currency notes, $961,103,104; gold notes, $363,349. The customs receipts at Washington on Monday amounted to $1,297,840, and internal revenue receipts to $354,000. The Treasurer received $354,000 in National bank notes for redemption; the total of such receipts for the week, compared with the same week of 1881, being as follows:

	1882	1881
New York	$380,080	$484,000
Boston	127,000	215,000
Philadelphia	55,000	122,000
Miscellaneous	464,000	859,000
Total	$1,026,000	$1,630,000

STATE STOCKS.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thr	Frid	Sat.
Old Tennessees	55¾	53½	53¾	53¼	53	53¼
New Tennes'e's	53½	52¾	52¾	52⅝	53	55
Va. Virginia's	33	32	33	32	33	33
Va. con. 6s, pf'd	15	15	14	14	13½	15
Missouri 6's	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	109¾	111¼
Louisiana 7's's	65¾	66¼	65¼	66	66¼	66¼

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thr	Frid	Sat.
U. S. 6's extend	100⅝	100¾	100¾	100⅝	101⅜	100⅝
U. S. 5's extend	102	102¼	102¼	101⅞	101⅞	102
U. S. 4½'s, coup	114½	114¾	114¾	114⅝	114¼	114½
U. S. 4's, coup	117⅝	118	117⅞	117⅝	117⅝	117⅝
Sterling, sight	489¼	489¾	489¾	489¼	489¼	489¼
Sterling, 60 day	484¼	484½	484¼	484¼	484¼	484¼
Pacific 6's of '95	126	127	127	125	125	126

The annexed table shows the annual debt statements of the United States with the reduction of the same during the years named:

	Net Debt.	Decrease.
August 31, 1865	$2,757,803,686 91	
June 30, 1866	2,650,338,330 10	$107,397,356 81
June 30, 1867	2,491,504,450 00	159,033,880 10
June 30, 1868	2,581,455,404 03	
June 30, 1869	2,480,002,480 58	42,452,923 45
Dec. 31, 1869	2,448,746,953 31	40,255,527 27
Dec. 31, 1870	2,332,167,798 75	176,670,159 56
Dec. 31, 1871	2,243,885,411 14	88,282,387 61
Dec. 31, 1872	2,162,252,338 12	81,586,073 02
Dec. 31, 1873	2,150,315,336 17	2,937,011 95
Dec. 31, 1874	2,142,597,392 02	16,717,024 15
Dec. 31, 1875	2,119,882,195 27	22,766,106 75
Dec. 31, 1876	2,062,021,248 81	26,910,953 46
Dec. 31, 1877	2,045,955,442 79	46,965,790 02
Dec. 31, 1878	2,028,648,111 09	17,307,331 70
Dec. 31, 1879	2,011,796,504 87	16,819,606 22
Dec. 31, 1880	1,899,181,735 99	112,616,768 88
Dec. 31, 1881	1,765,491,717 09	133,690,018 90

The following is the statement of the New York banks for the week ended Saturday:

Loans, increase	$ 745,800
Specie, decrease	3,750,000
Legal tenders, decrease	419,500
Deposits, decrease